

Study Guide: 1 John, Lesson 41

November 19, 2025

This study guide provides a comprehensive review of the nature, identity, and actions of the Antichrist, as detailed in Lesson 41 of the 1 John series. It synthesizes teachings from 1 John, 2 Thessalonians, Daniel, Zechariah, and Matthew to build a detailed theological profile of this end-times figure.

Short-Answer Quiz

Answer the following questions in 2-3 sentences each, based on the provided source material.

1. What is the definition of an antichrist?
2. According to the source, what is the "last hour"?
3. As described in 2 Thessalonians, who is the "man of sin"?
4. What is "the apostasy" as discussed in the context of 2 Thessalonians?
5. How does the text differentiate between general apostasy and "the apostasy"?
6. Explain the meanings behind the Antichrist's titles "man of lawlessness" and "son of destruction."
7. Who is the only other person in the Bible referred to as the "son of perdition," and what is the significance of this shared title?
8. What specific event constitutes the climactic act of "the apostasy"?
9. How does the prophecy in Zechariah 11 describe the Antichrist?
10. What instruction does JESUS give in Matthew 24 for when the "abomination of desolation" occurs?

Answer Key

1. **What is the definition of an antichrist?** An antichrist is defined as someone who is "against or in the place of CHRIST." The term ultimately relates to one's attitude toward JESUS CHRIST, and the source suggests that any non-believer can be considered an antichrist.
2. **According to the source, what is the "last hour"?** The "last hour" is the period of time characterized by the opposition of antichrists to JESUS and the appearance of false claimants to messiahship. This era is considered a present evil age that precedes the age to come, which will be defined by the prevailing righteousness under the rule of JESUS CHRIST.
3. **As described in 2 Thessalonians, who is the "man of sin"?** The "man of sin" is a title for the final Antichrist who will be revealed before the Day of the LORD. He is also called the "son of perdition" or "son of destruction," and his coming is according to the working of Satan with power, signs, and lying wonders.
4. **What is "the apostasy" as discussed in the context of 2 Thessalonians?** "The apostasy" is not a general falling away from faith but a specific, identifiable, and unique event that must occur before the Day of the LORD. It is a climactic revolt against GOD, led by the man of lawlessness, the Antichrist.
5. **How does the text differentiate between general apostasy and "the apostasy"?** General apostasy refers to the ongoing defection from the truth by individuals or churches throughout history, such as those mentioned in 1 Timothy who are seduced by demons. "The apostasy," in contrast, is the singular, climactic act of rebellion performed by the Antichrist when he deifies himself in the temple of GOD.
6. **Explain the meanings behind the Antichrist's titles "man of lawlessness" and "son of destruction."** The title "man of lawlessness" is one the Antichrist might give himself, signifying that he knowingly defies GOD's law and rule. The title "son of destruction" is GOD's title for him, a Hebraism meaning he is doomed for destruction and that destruction is part of his very nature or "spiritual DNA."
7. **Who is the only other person in the Bible referred to as the "son of perdition," and what is the significance of this shared title?** The only other person called the "son of perdition" is Judas Iscariot, as named by JESUS in John 17:12. The significance of this shared title is that both Judas and the Antichrist are controlled by Satan, who is the ultimate power behind them.
8. **What specific event constitutes the climactic act of "the apostasy"?** The climactic act of "the apostasy" is when the Antichrist "opposes and exalts himself above all that is called GOD or that is worshiped." He will enter the rebuilt temple of GOD, sit as GOD, and show himself that he is GOD, an act of his own deification.
9. **How does the prophecy in Zechariah 11 describe the Antichrist?** Zechariah 11 prophesies that GOD will raise up a "worthless shepherd" who is the opposite of the Good Shepherd. This evil shepherd will not care for the flock but will slaughter them to satisfy his insatiable hunger; he is ultimately doomed to have his strength (arm) and intelligence (right eye) destroyed by GOD.
10. **What instruction does JESUS give in Matthew 24 for when the "abomination of desolation" occurs?** In Matthew 24, JESUS instructs that when people see the "abomination of desolation"—the Antichrist standing in the holy place—those in Judea should immediately flee to the mountains. They are commanded to run without any delay, not even stopping to retrieve possessions from their homes.

Essay Questions

1. Compare and contrast the general concept of "antichrists" (plural) with the specific, final "Antichrist" (singular) as described in the text. Use scriptural examples and theological points from the lesson to support the analysis.
2. Using details from 2 Thessalonians and Daniel, describe the characteristics and actions of the final Antichrist. Detail his rise to power, the source of his influence, and the specific event known as "the apostasy."
3. Explain the concept of the "abomination of desolation." What is it, where does it take place, and what is its significance for the events of the Great Tribulation according to Matthew 24 and Daniel 9:27?
4. The source text discusses two key titles for the Antichrist: "man of lawlessness" and "son of destruction." Analyze the meaning of these titles, explaining who might have given him each title and what they reveal about his nature, self-perception, and ultimate destiny.
5. Discuss the role of Satan in relation to the Antichrist. How does the text describe their connection, and how does this parallel the relationship between Satan and Judas Iscariot as presented in the lesson?

Glossary of Key Terms

Term	Definition
Abomination of Desolation	An act perpetrated by the Antichrist at the midpoint of the tribulation, described in Daniel 9:27. It is when he stands in the holy place, exalting himself as GOD, which is a gross, blasphemous act that mocks GOD. This event triggers the Great Tribulation.
Antichrist	A term meaning someone who is "against or in the place of CHRIST." It can refer to a force or attitude present in every generation (plural "antichrists") or to the final, specific individual also known as the "man of sin" who will appear at the end of the end of days.
Apostasy (The)	A specific, identifiable, and unique event that must precede the Day of the LORD. It is the climactic act of rebellion against GOD, led by the Antichrist, in which he deifies himself in the temple. This is distinct from general apostasy, which is the ongoing defection from faith.
Day of the Lord	The day of CHRIST's return and final judgment. The source text clarifies that this day cannot come until after "the apostasy" and the revealing of the "man of sin."
False Prophet	The cohort of the Antichrist who will cause the people of the earth to worship the Antichrist. He is described as the head of the mystery religion of the end times.

Great Tribulation	The second half of the seven-year tribulation period, launched by the Antichrist's "abomination of desolation." It is described as a horrifying time of massive bloodshed and the worst period in the history of the world, featuring both the intolerance of the Antichrist and the judgments of GOD.
Last Hour	The present evil age that began around the time of CHRIST's arrival or ascension. It is the time when antichrists oppose JESUS and false messiahs appear, preceding the coming age of righteousness under CHRIST's rule.
Lawless One	A title for the Antichrist, found in 2 Thessalonians. It signifies a man who lives without GOD's law, defies GOD's rule, and will lead a flagrant revolt and rebellion.
Man of Sin	A title for the end-time Antichrist from 2 Thessalonians 3. He is also identified as the "son of perdition" and the "lawless one."
Son of Perdition / Son of Destruction	A title given to the Antichrist, meaning he is headed for and doomed to destruction. It is a Hebraism indicating that destruction is part of his essential nature, or "spiritual DNA." The only other person to hold this title in the Bible is Judas Iscariot.

Greek Terminology

The following Greek words were mentioned in the source material, providing deeper context for key theological concepts.

- ****Antetos (Antichristos)**¹**
 - **Pronunciation:** an-tee-kris-tos
 - **Definition:** Meaning someone against or in the place of CHRIST.
- **Apostasia²**
 - **Pronunciation:** a-pos-ta-see-ah
 - **Definition:** A rebellion or revolt. A short definition is "someone who is rebelling or revolting." A longer definition is "a deliberate abandonment of a formally professed position; a defection."
- **Anomia³**
 - **Pronunciation:** a-no-mee-ah
 - **Definition:** Lawlessness. It describes a man who defies GOD's law and rule.
- ****Apolia (Apoleia)**⁴**
 - **Pronunciation:** a-po-lee-ah
 - **Definition:** Perdition or destruction. The text states the Antichrist "belongs to Apolia."
- ****Nos (Naos)**⁵**
 - **Pronunciation:** nah-os
 - **Definition:** The innermost part of the temple. The Antichrist will enter the Naos and sit on the throne to exhibit himself as GOD.