

**Briefing Description: His Kingdom Will Come: Lesson 7**  
**December 28, 2025**

**Executive Summary**

This document synthesizes a detailed eschatological analysis centered on the prophecy of Daniel 7, outlining the divinely ordained sequence of events preceding the establishment of Christ's eternal kingdom. The core thesis posits that Christ's kingdom will only be realized after a specific chronology of global events unfolds. This sequence begins with the current "kingdom of the nations," which will culminate in a final, revived form analogous to the Roman Empire. From this final kingdom will arise its ultimate ruler, the Antichrist, also identified as the "little horn" of Daniel's prophecy.

The Antichrist is depicted as a multifaceted and charismatic figure—a political, intellectual, commercial, military, and religious genius—who will consolidate global power and establish a worldwide economic system. He will speak against the Most High, claim equality with God, and seek to dismantle divine order by changing established times and moral laws.

His reign will initiate the "Great Tribulation," a three-and-a-half-year period of intense and unprecedented persecution against God's people, the saints. During this time, the Antichrist will be granted authority to "wear out the saints" through systemic injustice, physical punishment, and economic coercion via the "mark of the beast." This persecution will result in the martyrdom of a vast number of believers.

The culmination of this period is a divine judgment executed by God the Father, the "Ancient of Days," and God the Son. In a vision of cosmic authority, the court of heaven is seated, the books of judgment are opened, and the Antichrist is slain and his body destroyed. Following this final judgment and a brief transitional period, the dominion of man's rule is brought to an end, and the kingdom of God is established. This everlasting kingdom is then given to the saints of the Most High, who will reign with Christ forever.

**The Chronology of the Kingdom**

The establishment of Christ's kingdom is not an immediate event but the culmination of a divine timeline. This chronology, primarily drawn from Daniel 7, follows a precise, four-stage progression that must be completed before Christ's return.

1. **The Kingdom of the Nations:** The current era, characterized by the rule of human governments.
2. **The Final Form of the Kingdom of the Nations:** A future global power structure, believed to be a revived form of the Roman Empire, possibly consisting of a ten-nation confederacy.
3. **The Final Ruler (The Antichrist):** The rise of the ultimate human ruler from this final kingdom, known as the "little horn."
4. **The Kingdom of Christ:** Established only after the final ruler has appeared, executed his persecution, and been divinely judged.

**Profile of the Final Ruler: The Antichrist**

The Antichrist, identified as the "little horn" in Daniel 7, is prophesied to be an individual of extraordinary ability and charisma. His character is defined by a mastery of multiple domains, allowing him to usurp global power with minimal upheaval.

- **Political Genius:** He will ascend to world dominance through shrewd political maneuvering rather than overt revolution.
- **Intellectual Genius:** A consummate problem-solver with immense intellectual capacity.
- **Oratorical Genius:** A compelling and powerful speaker capable of swaying nations.
- **Military Genius:** A brilliant military strategist.
- **Commercial Genius:** The architect of a unified, worldwide economic system that will control all commerce.
- **Religious Genius:** He will portray himself as a great spiritual leader, a phony Christ—a *pseudochristos*<sup>[^1]</sup> or an *ante Christos*<sup>[^2]</sup>—demanding worship from the entire world.

#### The Antichrist's Rebellion and Persecution

The Antichrist's reign is characterized by direct opposition to God. He will "speak pompous words" against the Most High, a claim to divine authority echoed in Daniel 7:25 and Revelation 13:5. His ultimate ambition is equality with God, seeking to "set himself at the side of the Most High."

#### Changing Times and Laws

A key strategy in his rebellion will be the attempt to dismantle God's established order by changing "times and the laws" (Daniel 7:25). This is interpreted to mean:

- **Altering Religious Observances:** Manipulating or eliminating traditional times of worship, fellowships, and sacred observances like the Sabbath.
- **Overturning Moral Law:** Actively working to change and wipe out God's moral laws, promoting systems and ethics (such as gay marriage) that are in direct opposition to the divine pattern.
- **Total Control:** Ultimately seeking to control every aspect of human life, from basic necessities to individual thoughts, to remove all of God's ordained patterns from society.

#### The Great Tribulation

The Antichrist's rule will trigger the final three-and-a-half-year period of tribulation, referred to as the "Great Tribulation." This period is described as a "time and times and half a time" in both Daniel 7:25 and Daniel 12:7. During this time, he will be permitted to wage a devastatingly effective war against the saints.

- **Global Authority:** According to Revelation 13:7, *"It was granted to him to make war with the saints and to overcome them. And authority was given him over every tribe, tongue, and nation."*
- **Systematic Persecution:** The saints will be "worn out," a term suggesting complete exhaustion and destruction, much like a garment becoming threadbare. This will be accomplished through:
  - **Injustice:** Seizure of property.
  - **Physical Punishment:** Beatings and violence for non-compliance.
  - **Economic Control:** The implementation of the "mark of the beast" on the right hand or forehead, without which no one can buy or sell.

- **Forced Worship:** The ultimate penalty for refusing to take the mark or worship the beast and his image will be death.

- **Specific Prophecies of Slaughter:**

- **Jews:** Two-thirds of the Jews will be killed (Zechariah 13:8-9).
- **Jerusalem:** The city of Jerusalem will be conquered (Zechariah 14:1-2).
- **Gentiles:** Myriads of Gentiles will be slaughtered.

### The Divine Judgment

The Antichrist's reign of terror culminates in a climactic scene of divine judgment, as detailed in Daniel 7:9-11.

### The Court of Heaven

- **The Judge:** The "Ancient of Days," God the Father, is seated on His throne. His appearance signifies His attributes:

- **Purity:** His garment is *"white as snow."*
- **Wisdom:** The hair of His head is *"like pure wool."*
- **Authority & Judgment:** His throne is a *"fiery flame"* with *"wheels of burning fire."* Fire is consistently associated with divine judgment in scripture (Psalm 97:3).

- **The Court:** A heavenly court is convened, attended by millions of angels (*"A thousand thousands ministered to Him; Ten thousand times ten thousand stood before Him"*).

- **The Verdict:** The books of judgment are opened, containing a perfect record of every person's life. The Antichrist, because of his "pompous words," is judged. Daniel's vision records the sentence: *"I watched till the beast was slain, and its body destroyed and given to the burning flame"* (Daniel 7:11).

### The Role of the Son in Judgment

The description of the Ancient of Days in Daniel bears a striking resemblance to the description of the Son of God in Revelation 1:14: *"His head and hair were white like wool, as white as snow, and His eyes like a flame of fire."* This parallel underscores the unity and equality of the Father and the Son in their deity and their role in judgment. This aligns with John 5, where the Father states He has "committed all judgment to the Son."

### The 45-Day Transition

Daniel 12 describes the length of this final period with two figures: 1,290 days (v. 11) and 1,335 days (v. 12). The 45-day difference between these two points is posited as a transitional "cleanup" period following the judgment of the Antichrist. During this time, the residual effects of Satan's rule are dealt with, and the world is prepared for the immediate start of the Millennial Kingdom.

### The Establishment of Christ's Everlasting Kingdom

Following the absolute destruction of the final ruler, the era of human rule concludes. Daniel 7:26-27 provides the definitive transition:

*“But the court shall be seated, And they shall take away his dominion, To consume and destroy it forever. Then the kingdom and dominion, And the greatness of the kingdoms under the whole heaven, Shall be given to the people, the saints of the Most High. His kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, And all dominions shall serve and obey Him.”*

This marks the end of man's history as it is known and the beginning of the eternal reign of Christ with His redeemed people.

#### The Prophetic Response: A Duality of Hope and Sorrow

The visions of these final events provoked profound reactions in the prophets who witnessed them.

- **Daniel's Distress:** After his vision, Daniel states, *“My thoughts greatly troubled me, and my countenance changed; but I kept the matter in my heart”* (Daniel 7:28). He was devastated and physically affected by the gravity of the revelation.

- **John's Bittersweet Experience:** In Revelation 10:10, John eats a little book representing God's prophecy. He describes the experience: *“it was as sweet as honey in my mouth. But when I had eaten it, my stomach became bitter.”* The sweetness is understood as the joy that Christ will ultimately reign and triumph. The bitterness comes from the realization of the terrible and eternal damnation awaiting all who reject Him.

This tension reflects the proper response to eschatology: profound hope in God's ultimate victory, paired with deep sorrow for the lost and an urgent call for the Church to reach them.

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#### Appendix: Greek Terminology

Term	Phonetic Pronunciation	Definition	Footnote
<b><i>Pseudochristos</i></b>	soo-dokh'-ris-tos	False Christ or phony Christ. A person who falsely claims to be the messiah.	[^1]
<b><i>Ante Christos</i></b>	an-tee'-kris-tos	Antichrist. A term that can mean one who is <i>against</i> Christ or one who stands <i>in place of</i> Christ.	[^2]