

Resurrection Life of Jesus Church

PREPARING FOR LIFE UNDER THE ANTICHRIST

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JOHN S. TORELL

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In reading the Bible, I am convinced that Christians are NOT going to be raptured or taken away prior to the coming of the Antichrist and I believe it is important to take a look at that time period since many of us might still be alive when the Antichrist comes on the scene.

I recently preached a series on *Facing the Antichrist*, and in *Part 2: The Rapture*, it is clear from New Testament teaching that a rapture prior to the coming of the Antichrist is false and that Christians must prepare for a very difficult time.¹ Let us therefore take a look at events leading up to the coming of the Antichrist and how it will be to live under his dominion.

OBSTACLES THE DEVIL MUST OVERCOME

1. Removal of public prayer and reading of God's Word. **Daniel 6:5-9**
2. It is essential that children learn about God so that they can make a decision to love and obey Him. **Deuteronomy 6:5-17**

The Devil will be blocked from taking control of the children as long as parents educate their children. Satan was able to destroy the educational program in Israel over time and he captured an entire generation. **Judges 2:6-13**

REMOVING PRAYER AND THE BIBLE

Prayer was effectively removed from public schools by a court order in 1962. Children can still lead out in prayer but this has increasingly become difficult.

Bible reading by teachers was also removed from public school by a court order in 1963.

In 1980 the courts decided that the Ten Commandments could no longer be displayed in public schools.

HOMESCHOOLING

Homeschooling is illegal in Germany and this law dates back to the time when Germany was under the Nazi party from 1933-1945. Despite de-nazification, this edict from Adolf Hitler was never removed. In a case of homeschooling that went to court in 2003, the court ruled that the parents must submit to the state. When the parents appealed the decision in September 2006 to the European Court of Human Rights, the verdict was upheld and the parents lost.

The state organization in Germany that enforces this law against homeschoolers is "**Jugendamt**," which also dates back to the time of Adolf Hitler. This organization is as ruthless as the infamous "**Gestapo**" and they raid families

¹ www.eaec.org/sermons/2010/RLJ-1264.htm



during the night and rip the children from the parents' arms. The children are then placed in state orphanages where they are usually mistreated.

Homeschooling in Sweden became illegal January 1, 2011. The Swedish authorities are just as brutal as in Germany but the government of Sweden has taken an extra step of requiring all private schools (Christian, Jewish and Muslim) to use the same educational material as public schools.

SPEAKING AGAINST HOMOSEXUALS AND JEWS

"Hate laws" have been passed in a number of European nations where one is not allowed to speak critically against homosexuals and Jews. Similar laws have been passed in different states of the United States and it is only a matter of time before there will be a "Federal Hate Law" on the books. Just speaking negatively about a homosexual or a Jew is now classified as a "hate crime."

WHAT TO EXPECT FROM THE ANTICHRIST REGIME

1. There will be political changes in the world before the Antichrist comes on the scene. These changes cannot be made as long as nations are at peace, people have employment and life is good; instead, a time of chaos must be created and these are some of the signs:
 - a) Political instability in the Middle East.
 - b) Disruption of oil production.
 - c) An economical depression with high unemployment
 - d) Food shortages

There will be a meeting at the United Nations where all heads of state will come and discuss this urgent global problem. The consensus will be that such global catastrophic situation can only be solved through a global effort. Consequently, nations must be willing to give up their independence and submit to a stronger United Nations that will in reality become a visible world government.

2. It is obvious that there must be a peaceable man that will be the head of this newer and stronger United Nations. There is a description of such a man in the Bible. **Daniel 11:20-24**
3. In time this man will do what Adolf Hitler did after he was appointed chancellor in 1933, when he methodically abolished political parties and laws until he had become a dictator known as "the Fuhrer." **Revelation 13:1-2**
4. To streamline his administration, the Antichrist will order that all religions be fused together and a new doctrine for them all. He will declare himself to be god incarnate and that worship should directed to Lucifer who has given him the power and the ability to solve all problems in the world. **2 Thessalonians 2:3-12; Revelation 13:4**
5. All churches will be ordered to register with the World Government and every pastor and church leader will be asked to swear allegiance to the Antichrist.

This was done in Germany when 95% of all pastors swore an allegiance to Adolf Hitler.

All Bibles will be destroyed and faith in Jesus Christ alone will not be tolerated. Parents who refuse to give up their faith in Jesus Christ will have their children removed and they will lose their jobs and possessions.

Revelation 13:5-7

6. This will be a terrible time and only those who are born again are going to be able to stay true to their faith in Jesus Christ. **verses 8-9**
7. Once the Antichrist has been able to take control of all religions and reform them into Satan worship, he will move to take economic control of every human on the earth. The false prophet will perform supernatural stunts that will scare people into submission so that they are willing to surrender their finances. **Revelation 13:11-15**
8. The decree will then be given that you must take the Mark of the Beast if you want to work, have a place to live, drive a car, have access to health care, etc. Taking the Mark of the Beast will also mean taking an oath of allegiance to the Antichrist, no one will be forced to take the Mark, it will be purely voluntary. **verses 16-18**
9. This is going to put an enormous pressure on the Christians who are left because you will become homeless with no place to go if you don't take the Mark of the Beast. On the other hand, if you take the Mark, you will lose your salvation and be forever damned to spend eternity in the Lake of Fire.
Revelation 14:9-11
10. You must live in the supernatural and trust God for your very breath of life to survive in this environment. **1 Kings 17:1-16**

THE REIGN OF THE ANTICHRIST

How long will the reign of the Antichrist last? The majority of Bible scholars believe it to be seven years but this is not found in the Bible. We only have one reference and the Bible says it will be for one hour. **Revelation 17:12-13**

If we use the time reference found in 2 Peter 3:8, we find the following:

- ❖ One hour with God is 41.67 human years
- ❖ One minute with God is 8 months and 8 days for man
- ❖ One second for God is 3 days and 22 hours for man

Thus the reign of the Antichrist will be 41.67 years!

NOW IS THE TIME TO PREPARE

There is no way we can physically prepare for this time period but we can prepare ourselves spiritually so that we walk in the Spirit and not in the flesh.
Romans 8:5-11

If you cannot say no to vices like smoking, drinking, drugs and, pornography, then you also won't last very long when the Antichrist system takes hold. Make up your mind and choose carefully whom you will serve! **Romans 6:12-16**

Remember, it's not so important how you begin your life after salvation, but how you finish it!

DO YOU HAVE AN EAR TO HEAR WITH?

HISTORICAL REVIEW

There were no personal computers when I came to the United States in 1963, only large corporations and the government had computers that took up a whole room. The dollar was very strong, gasoline was 19 cents per gallon, my monthly salary was \$354 and our rent \$60 a month.

I opened a checking account and had some credit cards to purchase gasoline. The credit cards were very simple with an account number on the front that was manually entered by the sales clerk.

- ❖ Credit cards were introduced in 1951.
- ❖ The magnetic strip on the back of credit cards did not show up until 1970.
- ❖ The smart card was introduced in 1977.
- ❖ ATM bank cards introduced in 1984.

People today are not using cash as much as they use credit and debit cards. Paychecks are deposited directly into a person's bank account, more and more people are paying their bills on the Internet and taxes are filed online.

Some state and county offices in California now refuse to accept cash and bills must be paid with check or credit card.

It is more and more difficult to get cash greater than a \$100 denomination. Cash is frowned upon by governments because it cannot be tracked.

Cash and personal checks will cease to exist in time. All transactions will be electronic with the means to control every person's finances.