

THE KEY OF DAVID

Tomorrow's News
Today

TRANSCRIPT – THAT ANTICHRIST (0602)

VOICEOVER:

The Key of David with Gerald Flurry

GERALD FLURRY:

Greetings, everyone. “That antichrist” is prophesied to rise in the last “hour” of man’s rule on this earth. Now, this anti-Christ is a man, and it is a sign to God’s people that we’re in the last hour of the last day, so, that’s a very important sign. If we’re going to understand where we are in this very specific increment of time, we’re going to have to understand about “that antichrist” which is prophesied in your Bible. This is a man, and he leads people to fight against Christ—anti-Christ—warring against Christ, and yet professing to do just the opposite. So, this takes some deep study in your Bible. We all have to study and really know what we believe, and let Christ guide us, and certainly not any man. No man can really understand this. Only God can understand it and reveal it to us. So, we have to believe and follow Christ, and if we do that we’re going to know all about the “antichrist.” I mean, that’s rather logical I think, but Christ has to reveal all this to us.

Notice what it says in I John 2 and verse 18 in the Revised Standard Version.

¹⁸Children, it is the last hour; and as you have heard that antichrist... That antichrist. ... is coming, so now many

antichrists have come; therefore we know that it is the last hour.

In other words, you know it’s the last hour because there’s the antichrist, and then of course, there are other antichrists following him—this one man. This is truly an amazing prophecy! One man who is fighting against Christ causes others to be “antichrists,” and it begins to be a matter of us knowing where this “antichrist” is, and you have to know a great deal to know that, or we won’t know the time frame that we’re in, right in the very last hour before Christ returns. That’s what your Bible says.

Now John, the Apostle John, thought that he was living in the last time, or the last hour, when he wrote this message. And he thought the last time was going to revolve around that 70 A.D. Holocaust in that time, but that was only a type. Your Bible teaches this in *many* places, that that was only a type of the last hour in this end time. And I’ll tell you what is even more of a real shocker here, is “that antichrist” rises up, not from the world, but right out of God’s own church. That’s what’s so absolutely stunning about it.

Notice verse 19. It reads: **They went out from us...** They went out from us. That is, John’s saying, the very church of God in his day, and also in this end time.

¹⁹They went out from us, but they were not of us; for if they had been of us, they would have continued with us; but they went out, that it might be plain that they all are not of us.

They went out from us. That antichrist actually rose up, and went out from God's own church.

Now, if you are the very elect of God, you're standing up and you're fighting for Christ; so you obviously must know who that antichrist is and those many antichrists that follow him. You must know that, or you don't know where you are in Bible prophecy. So, you know that God's very elect who fight and defend Christ are going to know *who* the antichrist is, and that is truly some almost unbelievable prophecy, but of course we do believe it—must believe it, but what a shocker that is. There is a *war* going on—a war going on among God's people. This antichrist rose up in the church. Many followed him and, of course, those who defend Christ—that little remnant that holds on and understands about the last hour, and fights for Christ and defends Christ—is there in this war, as well, fighting for Christ. I mean, Christ doesn't come and *personally* do the fighting. He does it through His little remnant. That's certainly an understanding of something that's happening in this end time that you and I *really, really, truly* need to understand.

Find the antichrist—I mean *before* you can find him, I should say, you have to find Christ. I mean, how would you know what “that antichrist” is if you don't understand Christ? You have to know Christ, and you have to know those whom Christ uses to defend Himself and His Work; so, we have to know a lot about Christ or we don't even

know where the war is. We don't understand where the war is going on, on this earth; and it is, after all, the greatest war on this earth. People could, I'm sure, and *do* scoff at that, at times, but it is, nevertheless, true because Jesus Christ said so through the Apostle John, and you can be sure that's true.

Notice verse 20. (Still in the Revised Standard Version.) **But you have been anointed by the Holy One, and you all know.**

So here, John is saying to the very elect, “You *know* who that antichrist is! You've been anointed by the Holy One. You have the Holy Spirit of God and you know *all things*,” it says in the King James. That is, you know all things you need to know because Christ reveals it to you through His Holy Spirit—those who fight and defend Christ. They *know!* Now, you can't say that you can't know who the antichrist is. I mean, after all, we *must* or we don't know where we are in Bible prophecy.

Now, we need more of God's Holy Spirit. We need faith, and we have a little booklet we'll offer you on ***What Is Faith?*** You need to know how to find Christ and how to follow Christ to even know *who* this antichrist *is*. We also have a Correspondence Course that teaches all about the Holy Spirit and baptism and repentance and faith. And those are characteristics that you must have if you're going to be able to understand *anything* about Bible prophecy or God or the Family of God. We must understand where Christ is and where His Work is, and we certainly can know that.

Notice verse 22. **Who is *the liar* but he who denies that Jesus is the Christ?**

This is the antichrist, he...“He” ...who denies the Father and the Son.

Notice it says, “the liar” and “he.” He is a liar, and yet he’s in God’s Church—or *was* in God’s church—led people away from it, and he is “a liar.” And of course, the father of all liars is Satan the Devil. (John 8:44.) He was a liar and murderer from the beginning. So this man is actually following Satan the Devil, and denying the Father and the Son, or the God Family, which is the gospel—the good news of the coming kingdom or family of God.

Now, we have another booklet on ***God is a Family*** which would help you to understand this. We need to know that God is a Family.

This man, this liar, denies the Father and the Son, and that’s very important to understand because if you don’t understand that, you don’t understand God’s family plan—that He’s going to bring *all* mankind into His Family *if* they will submit to Him. So, we’re not talking about some ethereal idea that’s just far out in space. This is something that’s practical, just like a physical family is practical.

Verse 25. And this is what he has promised us, eternal life.

Now, these are people of God and their eternal life is at stake, and it could be you could be a part of that. And He says if you are, then eternal life is at stake. I mean, how important is this war that is *raging* inside God’s own church? And the consequences are eternal life or eternal death. Surely, we’d have to say that’s the most important war on this earth. And you won’t find “the antichrist” or the “last hour” mentioned in any other book in the Bible except

with the Apostle John who was one that was very close to Jesus Christ, and we’ve had programs on that in the past. He had a special relationship with Him because Christ was revealing a great deal to him that He wanted him to write about later on.

But can you know who this evil man is? Well, now we’re going to give you another booklet on ***The Last Hour***, and it will show you who this evil man is or certainly give you information, and then even offer another book to you that will even make it clearer to you. You do, after all, have to study the Word of God to show yourself approved. That’s what Timothy talked about. You must show yourself approved to God. Most of God’s people are not doing that today. They’re making some horrendous errors.

But here, God puts time right up on the stage—center-stage—the last hour of the last day of man’s rule on this earth before Christ returns to this earth—the last hour. That’s a short little span of time, and you won’t know you’re in it if you don’t understand about the antichrist, or “that antichrist.” We know we’re in the last hour when “that antichrist” rises up in God’s own church, if you can believe that.

What is an antichrist? I mean it’s not really all that complicated. Is it? An antichrist is somebody who fights against Christ and fights against His Work and fights against His Word and His truth, and at *all* the same time, and at the very same time, professing to represent Christ. That’s why it can be such a deadly deceit. But I’ll tell you this: God’s royal little remnant are not deceived. They *know*. And surely, this antichrist would have to be, perhaps, the most condemning word in the Bible, but do we understand it and this man? I’m

talking about a man on this earth. That's pretty direct, I think, and something surely we can see the importance of understanding.

Let me read to you something that Herbert W. Armstrong wrote. Mr. Armstrong said about *Mystery of the Ages*—this book that we also, if you don't have a copy, please order it, and believe what Mr. Armstrong says about it here, and I'm telling you, I believe everything he's saying here. He wrote, "*Since last December...*" He wrote this in '85, 1985. "*Since last December I have been working diligently on the largest and most important book in my life. In real fact, I feel I, myself, did not write it. Rather I believe God used me in writing it. I candidly feel it may be the most important book since the Bible.*"

Well, I think it is. I've studied it and read it numerous times, and I agree with that. The most important book since the Bible. Now, that's either a lot of vanity, or it's the truth. One or the other. And we have to prove all things. Don't follow me. Follow Christ. Don't ever follow a man. Men deceive people. Christ never does.

But notice a contrasting view from the leader of that church that Mr. Armstrong once led. He says, "*We feel it is our Christian duty to keep this book [Mystery of the Ages] out of print... because we believe Mr. Armstrong's doctrinal errors are better left out of circulation.*"

Now, this is the man that's leading that church today. We won that book in a court battle that cost us several millions of dollars—fighting for that truth. You wouldn't even be able to get a copy of this *Mystery of the Ages* book if we hadn't won that court case, because they wanted to keep that out of circulation

and didn't want anybody on this earth to read it. And we felt that was the greatest affront they could possibly make against the Great God, so we fought them.

But who is right? Well, I mean, you have to prove that. We all have to prove these things. Who is right? Well, you'll have to be the judge of that. You'll have to, in the end, determine that yourself through studying the Bible and knowing who fights for Christ and who doesn't. Who really fights for Christ? There is a war going on, and even that word is the language of war—antichrist—fighting against Christ. Satan's been doing that ever since he became Satan, and men follow him. But it's a war for the minds of men—for your mind and my mind.

Notice what the Anchor Bible wrote: "*Others are right in arguing for capitalization, for the author is thinking of a specific expectation.*" In other words, capitalizing about the antichrist because he knows it's a man. Now, this scholar knows that.

It goes on to say: "*It is not impossible that I John's use of the 'last hour' is to be considered a specification of [Gospel] John's 'last day,' as if this were the last hour in the last day.*" They see this is an *urgent message*, and it's referring to a man—an opponent of Christ who fights Christ's people.

Here's what the International Critical Commentary states, saying that John, in this first epistle: "*...he writes under a pressing sense of danger.*"

See, the pressing sense of danger. We're facing the worst time of trouble ever on this earth, but the good news is, it all leads directly to the return of Jesus Christ. But when John says there's this pressing danger, he's not just saying

that. And remember, it is for this last hour. Do you see danger pressing in on us all around? Oh, I think you do if you know what's happening in the world. I think we all do. Don't we?

Notice, II Thessalonians 2. Here, again, is that antichrist and notice what he does. Verse 3. **Let no man deceive you by any means: for that day...** Now, don't let a man deceive you. ... **for that day...** That is the end time and the return of Christ—just before He returns, as well. ... **for that day shall not come, except there come a falling away first,** See, the antichrists follow “that antichrist.” ...**and that man of sin...** That *man*. ...**be revealed, the son of perdition;** Or destruction. That man—the son. This is a human being to come just before the return of Jesus Christ, and he leads a great *falling away*, and it is a *sign* to God's people when that happens that we're in very dangerous times, and when you get in to John, very specifically, in the last hour. But this is a *great* falling away and a man of destruction—a man—does that. Notice his attitude toward God. I mean, this man really has spiritual problems.

Verse 4. **Who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God, or that is worshipped; so that HE as God sitteth in the temple of God, showing HIMSELF that he is God.**

He sits right in the temple of God—in the church of God. That's what that means in the New Testament. You can prove that easily from our literature. He sits in the very church of God showing himself that HE is God! And that's how arrogant he is. He exalts himself above God. Well, obviously, he's “that antichrist” because he acts like he's God and he's inside the very church of God fighting against God.

Verse 7. **For the mystery of iniquity doth already work: only HE who now [restrains...] It should read. Will restrain.** You can check this in the Greek. But.....**HE who now restrains...**Will restrain....**until HE be taken out of the way.**

Now God is talking about another man who restrained this evil man and his followers or the spirit that they were in, anyhow. And God took him out of the way to test God's people—took a righteous man out of the way. Who was he? Who was that righteous man that was taken out of the way so God could test His people? These are phenomenal prophecies for this end time.

He who now restrains will restrain. You see, somebody was restraining it—that synagogue of Satan talked about in other prophecies.

So, the antichrist is a test for God's people. *A test for God's people.*

And do you know, do you understand that the Bible actually does talk about key characters in the Bible—good and bad? Now, I mean that really makes your Bible become meaningful and ALIVE and POWERFUL, and what a tool it is, and what a blessing it is in your life.

Notice verse 8. **And then shall that Wicked...Capital “W.” That antichrist. ...be revealed, whom the Lord shall consume with the spirit of his mouth,** See, Christ is going to return and destroy him. ...**and shall destroy with the brightness of his coming: ⁹Even him, whose coming is after the working of Satan with all power and signs and lying wonders,** See, a man. A wicked man is used by the Devil, and he shows lying wonders because he is “the liar,” and God allows it all to happen to test

God's people, of all things—to test if they *really love God's truth*. God does do those things, yet some people don't believe He would do that, but he does. All you have to do is study your Bible to know that.

Notice verse 10. **And with all deceivableness of unrighteousness in them that perish;** Should read: “*are perishing.*” Check the Greek. Check a commentary and you can see that. **...them that are perishing...** I mean, they're dying spiritually. **...because they received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved.**

God is trying to save them, and somehow they lost sight of that. He's trying to save them, and they lost the love of His truth and wouldn't even stand up and fight for it, and Satan just took it away through “that antichrist”—through a man, and now they're dying spiritually. Is that serious? What is more serious than this? What could be more serious than that, and *why* does God test His people like that? Well, look. He even says you should be willing to give up anybody and even your own life. (Luke 14:26) Those are scriptures that should be read to you before you're baptized.

Notice verse 11. Here's this liar standing up and representing the Devil, and here's what it says: **¹¹And for this cause God shall send them strong delusion,** God sends it, of all things, to test them. **...that they should believe the lie:**

The lie! Coming right out of the mind of the Devil. In other words, making the Devil appear to be God. The lie! God's own people actually believe the Devil. His own people. His own church.

The Anchor Bible states, “*Thus it is perfectly possible that ‘the antichrist,’ ‘the liar,’ and ‘the iniquitous one’ [or the lawless one], were current titles for the anticipated opponent of the last times.*”

See, they see it's an opponent of God in the last times. Scholars can see that. But you have to prove it to yourself in this booklet we're going to send you—a couple of them. But certainly, ***The Last Hour*** booklet will prove that to you, and I tell you, your Bible will be so *meaningful* to you. So *meaningful* to you.

Now, you can read more about this man in Daniel 8 and verses 11 and 12 where it says that he “*magnified himself against...*” It should read “*against the prince of the host.*” (Daniel 8:11.) That's against Jesus Christ. That's how he magnified himself, and he fought Christ and attacked “the place of his sanctuary”—a physical place. And it says, “cast the truth to the ground,” because God's people transgressed “the law.” Transgressors. They were there “transgressing the law.” Now, Daniel's an end time book, and you can prove that so easily. I mean anybody can prove that. But “an host was given to him” because of the transgression of God's people—that's the problem. But it all... you see, if you read on down, at the end of chapter 8 it says it leads directly to the return of Jesus Christ. So, you see, if you want to know about the “last hour”—the “last hour” of the “last day” of man's rule over man just before Christ returns to this earth—the most exciting time ever on this earth before Christ gets here—then you have to know, “Who is that antichrist?” Who is he? And who are those antichrists that follow him? That's what you need to understand right now.

Until next week, this is Gerald Flurry.
Goodbye, friends.

VOICEOVER:

Request our two free booklets, The Last Hour and What is Faith. The Last Hour shows how you can prove that we are in the last hour of man's rule just before the return of Christ. To know when we are in the last hour, the Apostle John wrote that we would have to identify that antichrist. Our free booklet, The Last Hour will help you identify that antichrist and prove for yourself that we are in the last hour. That antichrist rose from within God's one true Church and led a great falling away. Who is this man and where is this Church? Our free booklet, The Last Hour will give you answers to these life and death questions.

Also request our free booklet, What is Faith? This booklet shows from your Bible what faith really consists of. Faith is essential to believing any of God's prophecies. Christ asked if He would find faith on earth at His Second Coming. Do you have the faith it takes to believe and obey God? Our free booklet, What is Faith?, will help you learn how to increase your faith in God and His Word. As your faith increases, you will see dramatic improvements in your life.

Request The Last Hour and What is Faith?

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