

Who is the Antichrist?

The term “antichrist” or “antichrists” appears only in the letters of St. John:

"Children, it is the last hour; and as you have heard that antichrist is coming, so now many antichrists have come; therefore we know that it is the last hour" (1 Jn. 2:18).

"Who is the liar but he who denies that Jesus is the Christ? This is the antichrist, he who denies the Father and the Son" (1 Jn. 2:22).

"Every spirit which does not confess Jesus is not of God. This is the spirit of antichrist, of which you heard that it was coming, and now it is in the world already" (1 Jn. 4:3).

"For many deceivers have gone out into the world, men who will not acknowledge the coming of Jesus Christ in the flesh; such a one is the deceiver and the antichrist" (2 Jn. 7).

Other biblical passages may be referring to the "Antichrist," but under a different name. For example, the Gospels frequently refer to “false prophets,” while St. Paul refers to the “man of lawlessness” (2 Thess. 2:3).

The Catechism teaches that prior to Christ’s second coming will come a time of religious deception, offering humanity an apparent solution to their problems at the price of renouncing their faith in Christ.

This deception is personified by the Antichrist. It entails:

- (a) The rejection of Christ as the Messiah, the Son of God who has come in the flesh; and
- (b) The glorification of man as his own “savior”—both individually and through the establishment of godless political and social regimes.

--[*Catechism of the Catholic Church, nos. 675-77*](#)

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