

THE FIRST JOHN STUDY

CHAPTER 2:18

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THE TITLE OF THE MESSAGE:

“Who is Antichrist?” - Part 2

THE THEME OF THE BOOK:

1 John 1:3

“that which we have seen and heard we declare to you, that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with His Son Jesus Christ.”

TOPICALLY REFERENCED UNDER:

Antichrist, End Times, Discernment

1 John 2:18-19

Little children, it is the last hour; and as you have heard that the Antichrist is coming, even now many antichrists have come, by which we know that it is the last hour.... ¹⁹ They 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 they might be made manifest, that none of them were of us.

A World of False Believers and False Prophets

“Prophecy”
is the Defining Factor Between
The False and The True Messenger of God

Deuteronomy 12:32

“Whatever I command you, be careful to observe it;
you shall not add to it nor take away from it.”

In Our Last Time Together ...

1.) We're Living at the End of the Church Age	v. 18a
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Little children, it is the last hour;

“the last hour”

In Every Age, The Church has believed in The Imminent Appearance
Of Jesus Christ for His Church

2.) We See That The End Days Are Escalating	vv. 18b
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and as you have heard that the Antichrist is coming,

“the Antichrist is coming”

Note

Nowhere in Scripture is the Church instructed
to watch out for or to look to the coming of the Antichrist

Hebrews 9:28

so Christ was offered once to bear the sins of many. To those who eagerly wait for Him
He will appear a second time, apart from sin, for salvation.

3.) We Need to be Alert Against Imposters	vv. 18c
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even now many antichrists have come,

“many antichrists have come”



Have Come

GRK 2064 erchomai (er'-khom-ahee);

to come or go. to appear, bring, come, enter, is currently coming at you
and shall increasingly come at you



Even Now

GRK 3568 nun (noon);

a primary particle of present time; "now" hereafter. Presently

Jude 1:3-4

Beloved, while I was very diligent to write to you concerning our common salvation, I found it necessary to write to you exhorting you **to contend earnestly for the faith** which was once for all delivered to the saints. ⁴ For certain men have crept in unnoticed, who long ago were marked out for this condemnation, ungodly men, who turn the grace of our God into lewdness and deny the only Lord God and our Lord Jesus Christ.

They're Heeeree

4.) We Can Be Encouraged By Their Arrival

v. 18d

by which we know that it is the last hour...

by which we know

2 Peter 3:3-5a

knowing this first: that scoffers will come in the last days, walking according to their own lusts, ⁴ and saying, "Where is the promise of His coming? For since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as they were from the beginning of creation." ⁵ For this they willfully forget....

Many False Christs Shall Appear



Know

GRK 1097 ginosko (ghin-oce'-ko);

to have knowledge of, to have perceived, be resolved, can speak of. to be sure, understand.

We Know Beyond a Doubt

the last hour...

Romans 13:11-14

And do this, knowing the time, that now it is high time to awake out of sleep; for now our salvation is nearer than when we first believed. ¹² The night is far spent, the day is at hand. Therefore let us cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armor of light. ¹³ Let us walk properly, as in the day, not in revelry and drunkenness, not in lewdness and lust, not in strife and envy. ¹⁴ But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to fulfill its lusts.

10 Considerations

About The Spirit & Person of the Antichrist

1.) What is it to be Antichrist?

1a.) Is to Deny The Deity of Jesus Christ

The Common Key
of Every Cult and Occult Beliefs
is the Degrading and Devaluing of the Person of Christ

John 1:14

And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.

John 3:16-18

"For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. ¹⁷ "For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved. ¹⁸ "He who believes in Him is not condemned; but he who does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.

John 1:18

No one has seen God at any time. The only begotten Son, who is in the bosom of the Father, He has declared Him.

**The Worlds Cults and Their ‘Commonality’
is to take away from the uniqueness of Jesus Christ**

2 Peter 2:1-2

But there were also false prophets among the people, even as there will be false teachers among you, who will secretly bring in destructive heresies, even **denying** the Lord who bought them, and bring on themselves swift destruction. ² And many will follow their destructive ways, because of whom the way of truth will be blasphemed.

2 Corinthians 11:3-4

But I fear, lest somehow, as the serpent deceived Eve by his craftiness, so your minds may be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ. ⁴ For if he who comes preaches another Jesus whom we have not preached, or if you receive a different spirit which you have not received, or a different gospel which you have not accepted-- you may well put up with it!

1 John 2:22

Who is a liar but he who denies that Jesus is the Christ?
He is antichrist who denies the Father and the Son.

1 John 4:3

and every spirit that does not confess that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is not of God. **And this is the spirit of the Antichrist**, which you have heard was coming, and is now already in the world.

2 John 1:7

For many deceivers have gone out into the world who do not confess Jesus Christ as coming in the flesh. This is a deceiver and an antichrist.

What is it to be Antichrist?

1b.) It's to Live in Opposition to what the Scriptures say

Is Living In Obvious Disobedience to the Expressed Word of God

2 Timothy 3:1-5

But know this, that in the last days perilous times will come: ² For men will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, ³ unloving, unforgiving, slanderers, without self-control, brutal, despisers of good, ⁴ traitors, headstrong, haughty, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God, ⁵ having a form of godliness but denying its power.

John 5:37-40

"And the Father Himself, who sent Me, has testified of Me. You have neither heard His voice at any time, nor seen His form. ³⁸ "But you do not have His word abiding in you, because whom He sent, Him you do not believe. ³⁹ "You search the Scriptures, for in them you think you have eternal life; and these are they which testify of Me. ⁴⁰ **"But you are not willing to come to Me that you may have life.**

What is it to be Antichrist?

1c.) It's to Proliferate False Doctrine

The Key to weather a doctrine is correct or not
is what it teaches about Jesus Christ

2 John 1:7

For many deceivers have gone out into the world who do not confess Jesus Christ as coming in the flesh. This is a deceiver and an antichrist.

2 Timothy 3:5b-6

And from such people turn away! ⁶ For of this sort are those who creep into households and make captives of gullible women

1 John 4:1-3

Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits, whether they are of God; because many false prophets have gone out into the world ² By this you know the Spirit of God: Every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is of God ³ and every spirit that does not confess that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is not of God. And this is the spirit of the Antichrist, which you have heard was coming, **and is now already in the world.**

Combating the Antichrist System

2 Timothy 4:2-4

Preach the word! Be ready in season and out of season. Convince, rebuke, exhort, with all longsuffering and teaching. ³ For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine, but according to their own desires, because they have itching ears, they will heap up for themselves teachers; ⁴ and they will turn their ears away from the truth, and be turned aside to fables.

2.) What is the Spirit of Antichrist?

2a.) It's a Mindset, Belief, or Way of Thinking Against Christ

The Spirit of Antichrist

Is a worldview that leaves God out of His creation.

Evolution

*Is a manmade Religion of beliefs that tries to
Explain away the existence of God*

1 Timothy 6:20

O Timothy, keep that which is committed to thy trust, avoiding profane and vain babblings, and oppositions of science falsely so called:

1 John 4:3

and every spirit that does not confess that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is not of God. And this is the spirit of the Antichrist, which you have heard was coming, and is now already in the world.

What is the Spirit of Antichrist?

2b.) It's a Rebelliousness Against the One True God

**It's any system of belief that is in defiance of God
(America)**

Isaiah 5:20

Woe to those who call evil good, and good evil; who put darkness for light, and light for darkness; who put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter!

2 Timothy 3:1-5

But know this, that in the last days perilous times will come: ² For men will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, ³ unloving, unforgiving, slanderers, without self-control, brutal, despisers of good, ⁴ traitors, headstrong, haughty, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God, ⁵ having a form of godliness but denying its power. And from such people turn away!

2 Corinthians 4:3-4

But even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing, ⁴ whose minds the god of this age has blinded, who do not believe, lest the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine on them.

Ephesians 2:1-2

And you He made alive, who were dead in trespasses and sins, ² in which you once walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit who now works in the sons of disobedience,

Romans 1:18-20

For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who **suppress** the truth in unrighteousness, ¹⁹ because what may be known of God is manifest in them, for God has shown it to them. ²⁰ For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even His eternal power and Godhead, so that they are without excuse,

What is the Spirit of Antichrist?

2c.) It's a Liberal Understanding of the Scriptures

The Reinterpreting of The Scriptures

To Spiritualize the Teachings of Jesus, To Allegorize the Bible

Taking a Non-Literal Approach to Scripture

What the Bible is really saying is...

It's a great book of principles

Genesis 3:1

Now the serpent was more cunning than any beast of the field which the LORD God had made. And he said to the woman,
"Has God indeed said, 'You shall not eat of every tree of the garden'?"

2 Peter 1:16-21

For we did not follow cunningly devised fables when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but were eyewitnesses of His majesty. ¹⁷ For He received from God the Father honor and glory when such a voice came to Him from the Excellent Glory: "This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased." ¹⁸ And we

heard this voice which came from heaven when we were with Him on the holy mountain. ¹⁹ And so we have the prophetic word confirmed, which you do well to heed as a light that shines in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts; ²⁰ knowing this first, that no prophecy of Scripture is of any private interpretation, ²¹ for prophecy never came by the will of man, but holy men of God spoke as they were moved by the Holy Spirit.

3.) The Mission of the Antichrist

3a.) To Lead Humanity Astray from God

*To Cloud the Water
so That People will not Find God Attractive or Necessary*

3b.) To Lead Humanity Toward Satan

- Satan will paint any picture he can to Rob a Soul
 - Paints with a Brush dipped in wealth
- And it Other Times He Paints with a Brush dipped in Pleasures

3c.) The Goal, To Create an Alternative Kingdom

Matthew 4:8-9

Again, the devil took Him up on an exceedingly high mountain, and showed Him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory. ⁹ And he said to Him, "All these things I will give You if You will fall down and worship me."

Isaiah 14:9-15

"Hell from beneath is excited about you, to meet you at your coming; it stirs up the dead for you, all the chief ones of the earth; it has raised up from their thrones all the kings of the nations. ¹⁰ They all shall speak and say to you: 'Have you also become as weak as we? Have you become like us?' ¹¹ Your pomp is brought down to Sheol, and the sound of your stringed instruments; the maggot is spread under you, and worms cover you.' ¹² "How you are fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! How you are cut down to the ground, you who weakened the nations! ¹³ For you have said in your heart: 'I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God; I

will also sit on the mount of the congregation on the farthest sides of the north; ¹⁴ I will ascend above the heights of the clouds, I will be like the Most High.' ¹⁵ Yet you shall be brought down to Sheol, to the lowest depths of the Pit.

4.) The Days of the Antichrist

4a.) The Days of the Antichrist Have Always Been

Genesis 3:14-15

So the LORD God said to the serpent: "Because you have done this, you are cursed more than all cattle, and more than every beast of the field; on your belly you shall go, and you shall eat dust all the days of your life. ¹⁵ And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your seed and her Seed; he shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise His heel."

4b.) The Days of the Antichrist Are Now

We Have Seen
and we shall see more false-messiahs

4c.) The Days of the Antichrist Will Quickly Increase

Daniel 8:23-25 TLB

"Toward the end of their kingdoms, when they have become morally rotten, an angry king shall rise to power with great shrewdness and intelligence. ²⁴ His power shall be mighty, but it will be satanic strength and not his own. Prospering wherever he turns, he will destroy all who oppose him, though their armies be mighty, and he will devastate God's people. ²⁵ "He will be a master of deception, defeating many by catching them off guard as they bask in false security. Without warning he will destroy them. So great will he fancy himself to be that he will even take on the Prince of Princes in battle; but in so doing he will seal his own doom, for he shall be broken by the hand of God, though no human means could overpower him.

Daniel 9:24-27

"Seventy weeks **(490 years)** are determined for your people and for your holy city, to finish the transgression, to make an end of sins, to make reconciliation for iniquity, to bring in everlasting righteousness, to seal up vision and prophecy, and to anoint the Most Holy. ²⁵ "Know therefore and understand, that from the going forth of the command to restore and build Jerusalem until Messiah the Prince, there shall be **(49 years)** seven weeks and **(434 years = 483 years)** sixty-two weeks; the street shall be built again, and the wall, even in troublesome times. ²⁶ "And after **the (434 years)** sixty-two weeks Messiah shall be cut off, but not for Himself; and the people of the prince who is to come shall destroy the city and the sanctuary. The end of it shall be with a flood, and till the end of

the war desolations are determined. ²⁷ Then he shall confirm a covenant with many for **(7 years)** one week; but in the middle of the week **(31/2 years)** he shall bring an end to sacrifice and offering. And on the wing of abominations shall be one who makes desolate, even until the consummation, which is determined, is poured out on the desolate."

5.) The Powers of Antichrist

5a.) He Will Energize a Fallen Human Nature

5b.) He Will Appeal to The Masses of the World

5c.) He Will Embrace a single World Religion

The Personification of The Antichrist

6.) The Person of the Antichrist

6a.) He is Forth Coming - *Scripture Warns Us*

Revelation 16:13-14

And I saw three unclean spirits like frogs coming out of the mouth of **the dragon**, out of the mouth of **the beast**, and out of the mouth of **the false prophet**. ¹⁴ For they are spirits of demons, performing signs, which go out to the kings of the earth and of the whole world, to gather them to the battle of that great day of God Almighty.

6b.) He is Divine in His Mind - *Of the New Age Mold*

2 Thessalonians 2:3-4

Let no one deceive you by any means; for that Day will not come unless the falling away comes first, and the man of sin is revealed, the son of perdition ⁴ who opposes and exalts himself above all that is called God or that is worshiped, so that he sits as God in the temple of God, showing himself that he is God.

Revelation 13:1-3

Then I stood on the sand of the sea. And I saw a beast rising up out of the sea, having seven heads and ten horns, and on his horns ten crowns, and on his heads a blasphemous name. ² Now the beast which I saw was like a leopard, his feet were like

the feet of a bear, and his mouth like the mouth of a lion. The dragon gave him his power, his throne, and great authority. ³ And I saw one of his heads as if it had been mortally wounded, and his deadly wound was healed. And all the world marveled and followed the beast.

6c.) He is Satanically Possessed - *His Only Be-Rotten Son*

Satan Has Always Wanted Attention

Ezekiel 28:13-16

You were in Eden, the garden of God; every precious stone was your covering: the sardius, topaz, and diamond, beryl, onyx, and jasper, sapphire, turquoise, and emerald with gold. The workmanship of your timbrels and pipes was prepared for you on the day you were created. ¹⁴ "You were the anointed cherub who covers; I established you; you were on the holy mountain of God; you walked back and forth in the midst of fiery stones. ¹⁵ You were perfect in your ways from the day you were created, till iniquity was found in you. ¹⁶ "By the abundance of your trading you became filled with violence within, and you sinned; therefore I cast you as a profane thing out of the mountain of God; and I destroyed you, O covering cherub, from the midst of the fiery stones.

7.) The Mission of the Antichrist *Daniel 7*

7a.) To Create a Global Government - *Utopia*

7b.) To Create a World Church - *Unification*

7c.) To Revive The Ancient Glory of Rome - *The Fourth*

8.) The Coming of the Antichrist *2 Thessalonians 2:4, 9, 10*

8a.) Is in Accordance with the Times - *End Times*

2 Thessalonians 2:7-10

For the mystery of lawlessness is already at work; only He who now restrains will do so until He is taken out of the way. ⁸ And then the lawless one will be revealed, whom the Lord will consume with the breath of His mouth and destroy with the brightness of His coming. ⁹ The coming of the lawless one is according to the working of Satan, with all power, signs, and lying wonders, ¹⁰ and with all unrighteous deception among those who perish, because they did not receive the love of the truth, that they might be saved.

8b.) Is in Direct Opposition to God

- *White Collar*

2 Thessalonians 2:3-4

Let no one deceive you by any means; for that Day will not come unless the falling away comes first, and the man of sin is revealed, the son of perdition, ⁴ who opposes and exalts himself above all that is called God or that is worshiped, so that he sits as God in the temple of God, showing himself that he is God.

8c.) Is in Line with the Desire of the World

- *In Vogue*

Peace and Prosperity

at all costs

(Even if it's at the price of the truth)

9.) The Deception of the Antichrist

Daniel 12

9a.) By Spiritual Dilution

- *The Cults*

Flooding The Market with Counterfeits

Matthew 7:15

"Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravenous wolves.

Matthew 24:24-25

For false christs and false prophets will rise and show great signs and wonders to deceive, if possible, even the elect. ²⁵ See, I have told you beforehand.

9b.) By Physical Deceptions

- *Signs & Wonders*

II Thessalonians 2:9-10a

The coming of the lawless one is according to the working of Satan, with all power, signs, and lying wonders, ¹⁰ and with all unrighteous deception among

Revelation 13:11-15

Then I saw another beast coming up out of the earth, and he had two horns like a lamb and spoke like a dragon. ¹² And he exercises all the authority of the first beast in his presence, and causes the earth and those who dwell in it to worship the first beast, whose deadly wound was healed ¹³ He performs great signs, so that he even makes fire come down from heaven on the earth in the sight of men ¹⁴ And he deceives those who dwell on the earth by those signs which he was granted to do in the sight of the beast, telling those who dwell on the earth to make an image to the beast who was wounded by the sword and lived. ¹⁵ He was granted power to give breath to the image of the beast, that the image of the beast should both speak and cause as many as would not worship the image of the beast to be killed.

The Deception of the Antichrist

9c.) By Total Captivation

- *Peace & Prosperity*

Daniel 8:23-25

"And in the latter time of their kingdom, when the transgressors have reached their fullness, a king shall arise, having fierce features, who understands sinister schemes. ²⁴ His power shall be mighty, but not by his own power; he shall destroy fearfully, and shall prosper and thrive; he shall destroy the mighty, and also the holy people. ²⁵ "Through his cunning he shall cause deceit to prosper under his rule; and he shall exalt himself in his heart. **He shall destroy many in their prosperity.** He shall even rise against the Prince of princes; but he shall be broken without human means.

10.) The Whereabouts of the Antichrist

10a.) He's From a European Base of Operations

- *The U.S.E.*

Daniel 7:1-8

In the first year of Belshazzar king of Babylon, Daniel had a dream and visions of his head while on his bed. Then he wrote down the dream, telling the main facts. ² Daniel spoke, saying, "I saw in my vision by night, and behold, the four winds of heaven were stirring up the Great Sea. ³ And four great beasts came up from the sea, each different from the other. ⁴ The first was like a lion, and had eagle's wings. I watched till its wings were plucked off; and it was lifted up from the earth and made to stand

on two feet like a man, and a man's heart was given to it. ⁵ "And suddenly another beast, a second, like a bear. It was raised up on one side, and had three ribs in its mouth between its teeth. And they said thus to it: 'Arise, devour much flesh!' ⁶ "After this I looked, and there was another, like a leopard, which had on its back four wings of a bird. The beast also had four heads, and dominion was given to it. ⁷ "After this I saw in the night visions, and behold, a fourth beast, dreadful and terrible, exceedingly strong. It had huge iron teeth; it was devouring, breaking in pieces, and trampling the residue with its feet. It was different from all the beasts that were before it, and it had **ten horns**. ⁸ I was considering the horns, and there was another horn, a little one, coming up among them, before whom three of the first horns were plucked out by the roots. And there, in this horn, were eyes like the eyes of a man, and a mouth speaking pompous words.

Daniel 7:24a

The ten horns are ten kings who shall arise from this kingdom.

Revelation 17:12

"The ten horns which you saw are ten kings who have received no kingdom as yet, but they receive authority for one hour as kings with the beast.

Daniel 2:40-44

And the fourth kingdom shall be as strong as iron, inasmuch as iron breaks in pieces and shatters everything; and like iron that crushes, that kingdom will break in pieces and crush all the others. ⁴¹ Whereas you saw the feet and toes, partly of potter's clay and partly of iron, the kingdom shall be divided; yet the strength of the iron shall be in it, just as you saw the iron mixed with ceramic clay. ⁴² And as the toes of the feet were partly of iron and partly of clay, so the kingdom shall be partly strong and partly fragile. ⁴³ As you saw iron mixed with ceramic clay, they will mingle with the seed of men; but they will not adhere to one another, just as iron does not mix with clay. ⁴⁴ And in the days of these kings the God of heaven will set up a kingdom which shall never be destroyed; and the kingdom shall not be left to other people; it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, and it shall stand forever.

10b.) He's endorsed By the One Church - *The Prophet*

Revelation 17:1-6, 9

Then one of the seven angels who had the seven bowls came and talked with me, saying to me, "Come, I will show you the judgment of the great harlot who sits on many waters, ² "with whom the kings of the earth committed fornication, and the inhabitants of the earth were made drunk with the wine of her fornication." ³ So he carried me away in the Spirit into the wilderness. And I saw a woman sitting on a scarlet beast which was full of names of blasphemy, having seven heads and ten horns. ⁴ The woman was arrayed in purple and scarlet, and adorned with gold and precious stones and pearls, having in her hand a golden cup full of abominations and the filthiness of her fornication. ⁵ And on her forehead a name was written: MYSTERY, BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND OF THE ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH..... ⁶ I saw the woman, drunk with the blood of the saints and with the blood of the martyrs of Jesus. And when I saw her, I marveled with great amazement.... ⁹ "Here is the mind which has wisdom: The seven heads are seven mountains on which the woman sits....

Revelation 17:15

Then he said to me, "The waters which you saw, where the harlot sits, are peoples, multitudes, nations, and tongues...."

Revelation 17:18

The woman you saw is the great city that rules over the kings of the earth."

10c.) He's Being Prepared for His Hour

- *The Man*

- He Will Probably Be Of Jewish Decent
- He Will Arise Through The Ranks
- He Will Be Skilled At Speaking
- He Will Have A Way With The Middle East Players
- He Will Draft And Guarantee A 7 Year Peace Treaty
- He Will Be Assassinated

Zechariah 11:17

"Woe to the worthless shepherd, who leaves the flock! A sword shall be against his arm and against his right eye; his arm shall completely wither, and his right eye shall be totally blinded."

- He Will Be Resurrected
- He Will Be Scared By His Sufferings

A Grave, Yet Hopeful Warning

II Thessalonians 2:6-12

And now you know what is restraining, that he may be revealed in his own time. ⁷ For the mystery of lawlessness is already at work; only He who now restrains will do so until He is taken out of the way. ⁸ And then the lawless one will be revealed, whom the Lord will consume with the breath of His mouth and destroy with the brightness of His coming. ⁹ The coming of the lawless one is according to the working of Satan, with all power, signs, and lying wonders, ¹⁰ and with all unrighteous deception among those who perish, because they did not receive the love of the truth, that they might be saved. ¹¹ And for this reason God will send them strong delusion, that they should believe the lie, ¹² that they all may be condemned who did not believe the truth but had pleasure in unrighteousness.

Just the Beginning...