

Of The Last Days:
Listen, I tell you a mystery

From where the Antichrist will come.

In the First Testament, the prophets Isaiah, Ezekiel and Daniel provided a great deal of information about the Antichrist. With what is revealed in the Second Testament we can know **from where the Antichrist will come.**

Daniel received a prophecy from God revealing that the Antichrist will confirm a treaty guaranteeing Israel's security. Then, after 3 ½ years, the Antichrist will set himself up in the Jewish Temple and proclaim that he is God. This abomination will initiate the *Great Tribulation* which will last 3 ½ years.

At the end of the *Great Tribulation*, Christ will return, establish His Kingdom on earth and destroy the Antichrist. First, the Antichrist will be Israel's protector before he attempts to destroy everyone who refuses to worship him.

Daniel referred to the Antichrist as "*the leader who will come, the little horn, the beast and the stern faced king.*"

In Daniel 11, he also referred to the Antichrist as *the king of the North*. The *king of the North* and *the land of the North* is what Jeremiah called the territory of the Assyria and Babylon. The Assyrian Empire was conquered by the Babylonians in 626 B.C. Both the Assyrian capital of Asshur and the Babylonian capital of Babylon were located in present day Iraq, see map below.

These empires essentially comprised the same territory which included present day Turkey, Syria, Iraq, Iran, Lebanon, Jordan, Saudi Arabia and Egypt.

Present Day Middle Eastern Countries



In Ezekiel 38 and 39 the Antichrist's two campaigns against Israel interwoven in the prophecy. Included are details of the Antichrist and his armies coming against Israel at the beginning of the Great Tribulation. The prophecy also describes the Antichrist and his armies coming against Jerusalem at the end of the age.

Ezekiel refers to the Antichrist as *Gog, the chief prince, from the land of Magog*. The ancient land of Magog included some of the territory represented by present day Turkey, Syria, Iraq, Iran, Georgia, Armenia, Azerbaijan, and Russia near the Black Sea.

Isaiah referred to the Antichrist as *the Assyrian and the king of Assyria*. One of Isaiah's prophecies tells how Israel will at first rely on the *Assyrian* until he beats them with the club of God's wrath. But, then finally they will turn to the Holy One of Israel. This description depicts the Time of the End when the Antichrist will be Israel's protector until he attempts to wipe them out in the Great Tribulation.

Isaiah's prophecy also says that a remnant of Israel will turn to God and be saved from the Antichrist. When Isaiah refers to the Antichrist as *the Assyrian*, he is indicating from where the Antichrist will come. Ancient Assyria included territories represented by present day Turkey, Syria, Lebanon, Iraq and Iran.

Jesus, John and Paul spoke about the Antichrist. Jesus called the Antichrist '*the abomination that causes desolation*.' Paul called the Antichrist '*the man of lawlessness*' and '*the lawless one*.' However, neither Jesus nor Paul indicated from where the Antichrist would come.

In Revelation 13, John said that the Antichrist and his kingdom would be like a lion, a leopard and a bear. Daniel used these likenesses for the Babylonian, Media-Persian and Greek Empires.

The Bible again and again indicates that the Antichrist will come from the Middle East.

With biblical prophecy consistently pointing to the Middle East as the origin of the Antichrist, why do some people believe that the Antichrist will come from a revived Roman Empire like the European Common Market?

This deception is from a sentence in Daniel 9:26 which says, "***The people of the ruler who will come will destroy the city and the sanctuary.***"

One subject of Daniel 9:26 above, is ***the people***.

The people will be of the same people as the ruler who will come. This means the people and the ruler will be of the same national origin. If the people are Greek then the leader in question will be Greek. So, when we know the national origin of the people we will also know the national origin of the leader.

Part of this prophecy was fulfilled in 70 A.D. when the Roman army destroyed Jerusalem and the Jewish sanctuary. According to Josephus, the people that destroyed the sanctuary were predominately Syrian.

Some people have incorrectly assumed that, because it was a Roman army, *the people* who destroyed the city and the sanctuary were of Romans. However, it was customary for the Roman army to conscript soldiers from territories they had conquered. In this campaign the Roman troops were predominately Syrians.

Therefore, *the ruler who will come* will be of Syrian national origin. Syria, at that time, included some of the territory of present day Turkey, Syria and Lebanon.

The ruler who will come is the Antichrist which is confirmed in Daniel 9:27. Daniel identifies ***the leader who will come*** this way.

"He will confirm a covenant with many for one 'seven.' In the middle of the 'seven' he will put an end to sacrifice and offering. And on a wing of the temple he will set up an abomination that causes desolation, until the end that is decreed is poured out on him"

Therefore, Daniel also indicates that the Antichrist will come from the Middle East.

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