

Huntsville, AL: WAMY-TV 54.2
 Sunday, 8:00 a.m. (CT)
Hope, AR: KTSS, Sunday, 7:30 a.m.
 & 11:30 p.m.; Monday, 3:30 p.m.
Little Rock, AR: KARZ, Sun., 7 a.m.
Sanford, NC: WBFT-TV46
 Sunday, 10:30 a.m.

Chattanooga, TN: WFLI
 TV 53 (Comcast 6 & EPB 6), Sun-
 day, 7:30 a.m.
Knoxville, TN: WKNX-TV 7, Sunday,
 7:00 a.m.
Lafollette, TN: WLAF, Sunday,
 8 a.m.

Memphis, TN: WTWW TV 23,
 Wednesday, 9:30 p.m. CT
Nashville, TN: WUXP TV 30
 Sunday, 8:00 a.m. CT
The Gospel Radio Network
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“Be Ready Always”

In this edition of the GNT newsletter, we are highlighting the work of David Smith, who contributes the “Be Ready Always” segment, featured regularly on the program. David is an exceptionally talented young preacher and student of the word of God, whose lessons help prepare us to deal with questions and explanations of scriptural texts, with which we might be confronted. David preaches for the North Hamilton church in Soddy, TN.

After being honorably discharged after five years in the US Army, David determined to devote his life to preaching, first studying at East Tennessee School of Preaching, then pursuing advanced degrees.

“But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts, and always be ready to give a defense to everyone who asks you a reason for the hope that is in you, with meekness and fear” (1 Peter 3:15, NKJV).



“Be Ready Always” is written and produced by the talented, young David Smith, preacher for the North Hamilton church, near Chattanooga, (seen above with wife, Ashley). At left is David and Ashley’s first child, daughter Evie Rose.

He graduated from Southern Christian University with a B. A. and attained an M. A. at Liberty University. He still is involved in further degreed study. David speaks on numerous lectureships and Gospel meetings each year and serves on the faculty of the Chattanooga School of Preaching. He also appears regularly on Gospel Broadcasting Network (GBN).

Following is a sample of David’s “Be Ready Always” segment, which deals with “the antichrist”:

“Be Ready Always”

I don’t know if you read newspapers and watch television programs about current events and news; but, you know, there’s a lot of hysteria about the way things are happening in the world. And, sometimes, there is religious hysteria attached to the news. In some news circles, you’ll hear people say, “Well, we’re expecting a great world leader to come on the scene, and it must be the arrival

of the antichrist.” Have you ever heard that term “antichrist”? They use it in the sense of predicting some malevolent leader, who is going to rise up in the world and lead a war of rebellion against Jesus Christ.

Now, it is part of a system called “Premillennialism,” but maybe you’ve heard someone describe it—anything from saying it is some prominent male Jew who is going to be against Christ, to our current president, to somebody ... You say, “I really wish I just understood that term and understood what it means. I really wish I had an answer to that.”

Here’s what I want you to do. Turn in your Bible to 1 John 2. I want to show you how you can tell anybody what the Bible says regarding “antichrist.” So, look at 1 John 2, and look at verse 18. (Continued, Page 2)



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“This is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, who desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth” (1 Timothy 2:3, 4, NKJV).

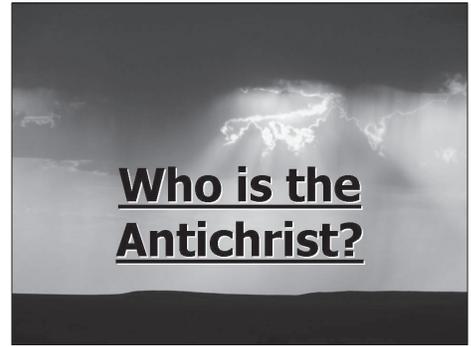
“Be Ready Always” (Continued)

By the way, before I go any further, isn't it interesting to know that the word “antichrist” never even appears in the book of Revelation? Sometimes it is said that the book of Revelation is about the coming antichrist, and the word doesn't even appear in the book. The only time it appears is in the writings of John, in his epistles. So, look at 1 John 2, and listen to verse 18. If you've got your pen ready, I'm going to give you a couple of references here. John says, in 1 John 2:18: “Little children, it is the last time: and as ye have heard that antichrist shall come...” See the word there—“even now are there many antichrists”? Underline or circle the words “many antichrists”—“many antichrists, whereby we know that it is the last time.” Notice that John says there is not just a singular antichrist; there are many of them. So, in this passage, you are able to show somebody that it's not just a singular person, but anybody could fit this category. There are many of them. In fact, somewhere near verse 18, write the reference to verse 22, or draw a line down to verse 22; because John continues and says: “Who is a liar but he that denies that Jesus is the Christ?” Notice: “He is antichrist, that denies the Father and the Son.”

Now, what if I were to deny the Father and the Son? Well, that would make me an antichrist. I would be against Christ. What if you did that?

Well, you would be against Christ, and you would be antichrist. John says there are many antichrists. In his day, just like there are today, there are many people that deny that Jesus Christ came in the flesh. That's the spirit of antichrist. So, you've noted that the definition of “antichrist” is a person that denies that Jesus Christ came in the flesh—he denies the Father and the Son, and there are many of them.

Somewhere out in the margin of your Bible write “4:3.” What you're saying is chapter 4, verse 3. So, go to 1 John 4:3, and John says: “And every spirit that confesses not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is not of God: and this is that spirit of antichrist, whereof ye have heard that it should come; and even now already is it in the world.” Notice that John says here are two very important things: one is, we're not waiting on antichrist—John says it's already in the world. Remember he said, back in verse 18 of chapter 2, there are many of them already in the world. John says we're already saturated with people who do not believe that Jesus Christ came in the flesh. But, notice in verse 3, he talks about the “spirit of antichrist.” “Spirit” here carries the sense of an attitude, a mentality. It's not a person, per se; it's a mindset. Anybody that carries that mindset is antichrist, against Jesus Christ. Then, if you want one more reference, out to the margin of chapter 4, verse 3, write: “2 John 1:7.” Here John says: “For many deceivers are entered into the world, who confess not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh.” Listen carefully: “This is a deceiver and an antichrist.” So, John again says it's not some special, specific person; it's anybody that denies that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh.

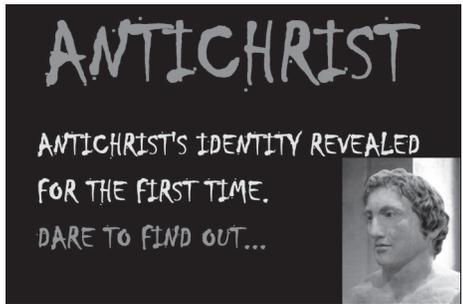


It's a scary term, the way it's being used in the religious hysteria circles, where they will say, “Yes, there's an antichrist coming, and you ought to be aware of him.” But, let's make sure that we are listening to the inspired writers of the Bible; because the inspired writer John said there are many of them, and they're already in the world. It's anybody that denies that Jesus Christ came in the flesh. It's a mindset, and anybody that would have that mindset is “ANTI-Christ.”

Now, that's a pretty simple answer for sometimes what is perceived to be a complex issue. But, as long as you're equipped with 1 John and some of those references there, and you've circled a few of those key words, you can explain to anybody that we're not waiting for some future political leader who's going to rise up in rebellion against Jesus Christ. We've always had those in the world. What we have is a spirit, a mindset that even existed in John's day, of people that deny that Jesus Christ came in the flesh. That's what an antichrist is.

Now, you've got the answer from the Bible. Now you're ready. I'm David Smith, and this is “Be Ready Always.”

*“Even now many antichrists have come ... He is antichrist who denies the Father and the Son”
(1 John 2:18, 22).*



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At left: Overseeing elders of the White Oak church and **Good News Today**:
Jim Dearman and Steve Pell, Sr.

Speakers at right:

Jim Dearman, Host/Producer
Leroy Dedmon, “Leaving a Legacy”
Barry Gilreath, Jr., “A Few Minutes for Family”
Steven Hall, “Challenges”
David Smith, “Be Ready Always”



Production crew at left:
Tommy Leslie and Brian Ceraolo, directors
Jerry Wright and Tom McCormack, cameramen