

# Writings on the End of the World



by Pastor Mike

Copyright © 2019 A Heart For God Media – Campagna ePublishing

<http://www.ahartforgod.org>

# Table of Contents

|   |    |
|---|----|
| The End of the World Has Already Come?<br>(and the Single, Most Important Thing You<br>Must Learn From It)..... | 3  |
| On the Subject of Martyrs.....  | 5  |
| Antichrist Takes His Seat Not In A Rebuilt<br>Temple in Jerusalem, But In The Christian<br>Church Instead?..... | 7  |
| False Prophet Dynamic.....  | 11 |
| How You Can Be Saved From Hell At The<br>Resurrection Of The Dead.....  | 13 |

# The End of the World Has Already Come? (and the Single, Most Important Thing You Must Learn From It)

## DOOMSDAY SCENARIOS

There's a lot of talk about the world coming to an end in our day.

Doomsday scenarios abound whether in the media or movies or via ministers in the pulpit.

But I'd like to submit to you that the world has already ended. (Boom.)

Before you categorize me with the crazies, allow me to explain.



## THE END OF THE WORLD HAS ALREADY COME?!

And let me just put it to you simply:

The world came to an end in Noah's day. ("Well, duh.")

It was a great Flood that ended the world the first time. (Thunderbolt. Splash.)

The Apostle Peter describes it like this...

[T]he patience of God kept waiting in the days of Noah, during the construction of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were brought safely through the [great Flood]. (1 Peter 3:20bcd)

He goes on...

[God] did not spare the ancient world, but preserved Noah, a preacher of righteousness, with seven others, when He brought a flood upon the world of the ungodly. (2 Peter 2:5)

And so you see the end of the world has already come (once).

## **THE SINGLE, MOST IMPORTANT THING YOU MUST LEARN FROM THE END OF THE WORLD**

And while the men wearing white coats are fastening my straight jacket to haul me away, let me just emphasize the single, most important thing we learn from the end of the world as it happened in Noah's day:

A person (and his family) can survive it. (Read the above verses again.)

So you, too, (and your family) can survive the second end of the world (which is coming upon us) through faith in God's Son / Christ crucified for the forgiveness of sins. (He is the "Ark.")

"So faith comes from hearing, and hearing by the word of Christ." (Romans 10:17)

"[W]hen the Son of Man (Jesus Christ) comes, will He find faith on the earth?" (Luke 18:8b)

(Noah's Ark via [wikipedia](#). [PD-US](#))

# On the Subject of Martyrs



“And when He broke the fifth seal, I saw underneath the altar the souls of those who had been slain because of the word of God, and because of the testimony which they had maintained.” (Revelation 6:9)

## WHAT IS A MARTYR?

A martyr is a witness. He is a person who chooses death rather than deny his faith. As the end of the world approaches, this murder of representatives of Christ will only intensify. (Matthew 10:21-22a) Jesus Himself spoke of the dynamic when He said, “[B]ut an hour is coming for everyone who kills you to think that he is offering service to God.” (John 16:2) It’s how they

treated Him. (Matthew 10:25) It’s how the twelve apostles were treated.

## HOW THE APOSTLES DIED

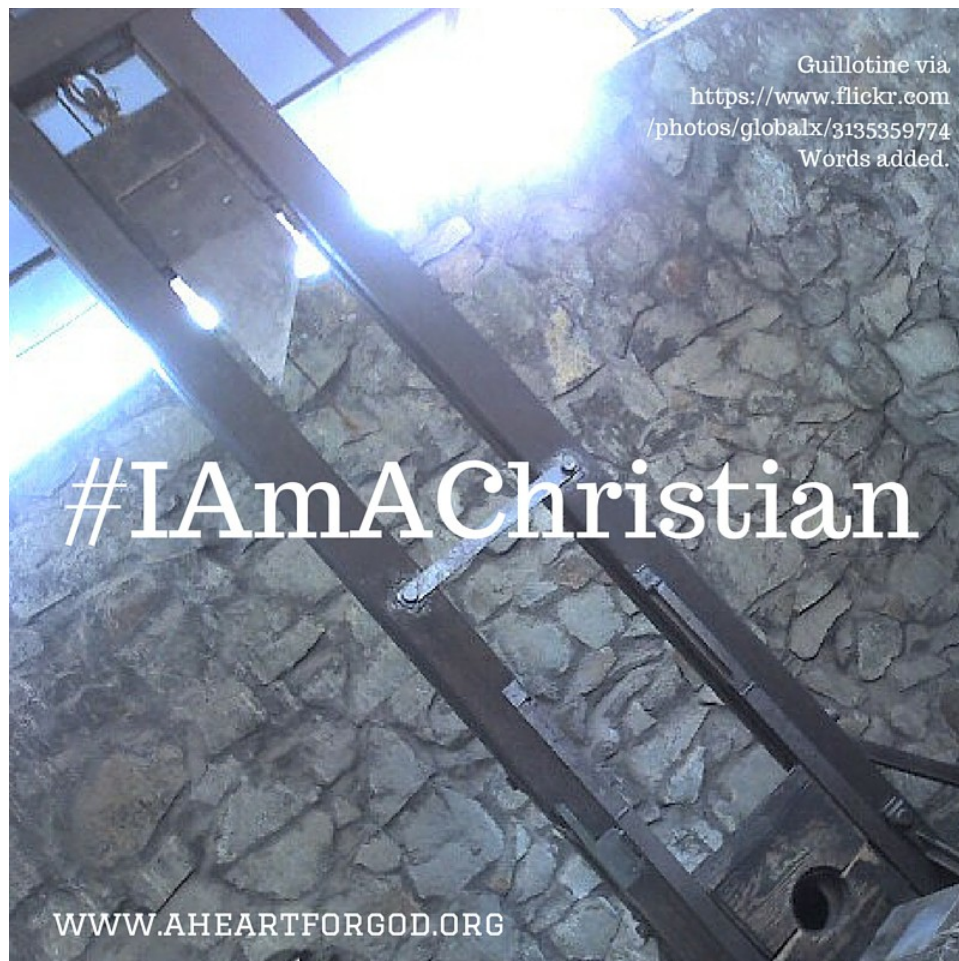
According to tradition, Peter was crucified upside down. (John 21:18-19) James was killed with a sword (beheaded). (Acts 12:2) John was boiled in oil, but survived. Andrew was crucified on an X-shaped cross. Philip suffered crucifixion. Bartholomew (Nathanael) was flayed alive with knives. Matthew was killed with a sword in Ethiopia. Thomas was speared to death in India. James (the Less) had his brains smashed out in Syria. History is largely silent about Thaddaeus, Simon the Zealot and Matthias (the replacement for Judas), but it’s safe to assume they gave their lives for the cause of Christ, too.

## SHEEP TO BE SLAUGHTERED

Before the first apostle (James) was martyred, there came Stephen. (Acts 7:58-60) As Stephen was being stoned to death, a young man named Saul stood by applauding the event. (Acts 22:20) This same Saul would later convert and become Paul, who would write, “For Thy sake we are being put to death all day long; We were considered as sheep to be slaughtered.” (Romans 8:36) He was quoting Psalm 44:22 to a church that was about to undergo tremendous suffering. The psalmist couldn’t understand why Israel had been defeated despite her faithfulness to God. The truth is Israel was suffering because of her faithfulness to God.

And if we are found to be “as sheep for the slaughter” ourselves (face martyrdom), it is not because Jesus has withdrawn His love from us. (Romans 8:35-39) Quite to the contrary. It is because we are His! (Job 1:8)

(Peter's Crucifixion via [wikipedia](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Peter's_Crucifixion). PD-US)



# Antichrist Takes His Seat Not In A Rebuilt Temple In Jerusalem, But In The Christian Church Instead?

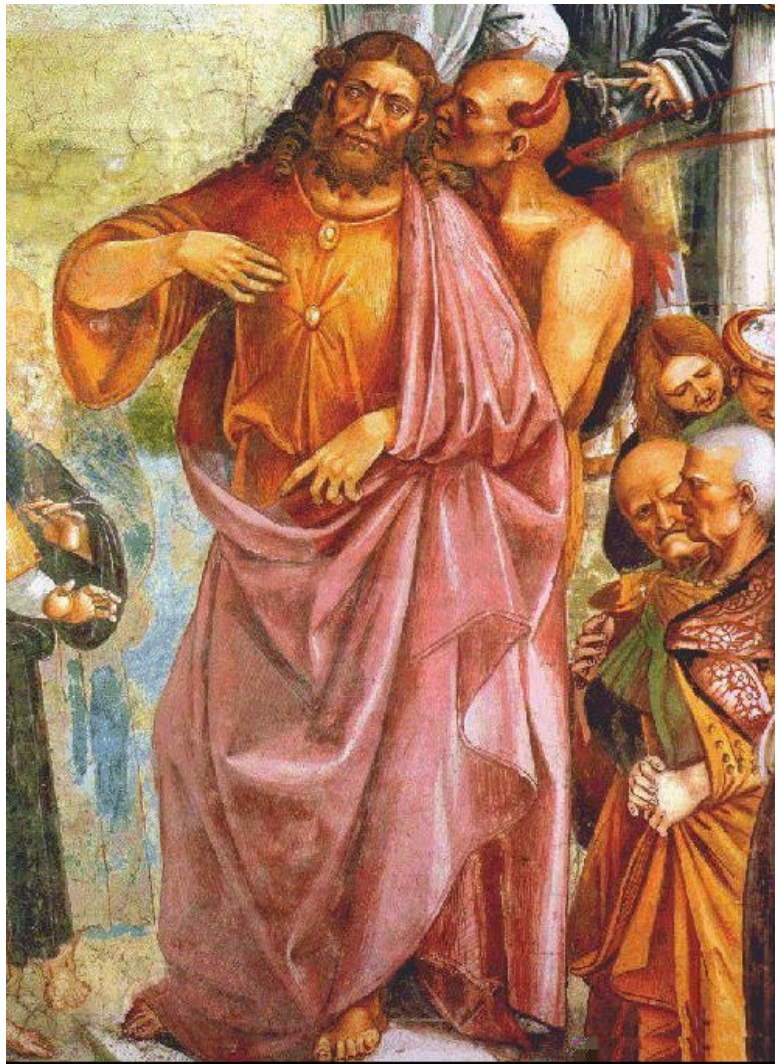
## THE ANTICHRIST

I want to talk to you about the antichrist.

Beginning in 2 Thessalonians chapter 2 and verse 3 it says...

“Let no one in any way deceive you, for it (the day of the Lord spoken about in the previous verse) will not come unless the apostasy comes first, and the man of lawlessness is revealed, the son of destruction, who opposes and exalts himself above every so-called god or object of worship, so that he takes his seat in the temple of God, displaying himself as being God.” (2 Thessalonians 2:3-4; NASB)

And let me just stop right there.



I want you to hold this thought: antichrist (the man of lawlessness) will take his seat in the “temple of God.”

Got it?

Most people think this temple will be a rebuilt temple in the Middle East in Jerusalem.

But I’d like to offer you a distinctly different possibility.

The “temple of God” is key.

What is the “temple of God”?

Hmm?

### **CONTEXT OF 1 CORINTHIANS 3**

Go with me to 1 Corinthians chapter 3, beginning at verse 16.

And before we read, allow me to just give you the context of 1 Corinthians 3:1-23.

Paul, under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, is talking to pastors who are fellow workers with God in the building up of the church. (1 Corinthians 3:9)

Jesus will build His church and the gates of hell will not prevail against it. (Matthew 16:18)

And He calls pastors to partner with Him in this endeavor.

Each of these pastors will give account to Jesus in the day of judgment as to how he builds. (1 Corinthians 3:12-15)

And so this is the context surrounding now 1 Corinthians 3:16-17 that talks about the temple of God.

Notice...

“Do you not know that you are a temple of God and that the Spirit of God dwells in you? If any man destroys the temple of God, God will destroy him, for the temple of God is holy, and that is what you are.” (1 Corinthians 3:16-17)

And so we have the “temple of God” referred to in the context of a chapter (1 Corinthians 3) talking about pastors who are fellow workers with God in the building up of the church and partnering with Christ in His building of His church.

### **THE TEMPLE OF GOD**

And now in 1 Corinthians 3:16-17, we find the “temple of God” being referring to.

And I would like you to keep in mind the “temple of God” in 2 Thessalonians 2:4



where the antichrist is predicted to take his seat “displaying Himself as being God.”

Who – or better put, WHAT – is the temple of God that is being referred to in 1 Corinthians 3:16-17?

I’ll let you think about it for a second while emphasizing the YOU in the passage...

“Do you not know that YOU are a temple of God and that the Spirit of God dwells in YOU? If any man destroys the temple of God, God will destroy him, for the temple of God is holy, and that is what YOU are.” (1 Corinthians 3:16-17)

And so who – or better put, WHAT – is the temple of God?

Who (or what) is the YOU?

Is it a Christian (singular) or is it something else?

I think that’s how it’s most often been portrayed / interpreted here.

And if you are able to look at the English Standard Version of the Bible (which is the best interpretation as it has to do with the Greek by the way), here’s how the “you” in the verses are translated: “The Greek for you is plural in verses 16 and 17.”

Did you see that there?

Let me post it again.

“The Greek for you is PLURAL in verses 16 and 17.”

Go look it up yourself.

You’ll see I’m not making it up.

And so the “temple of God” in 1 Corinthians 3:16-17 according to the context and the Greek is plural.

In other words, it stands for “you all” (say it like you live in Texas, “Ya’ll!”).

In other words, the “temple of God” in 1 Corinthians 3 stands for “you all” – the

Christian church?!

Are you hearing where I'm going with this?

And could it be that the antichrist will take his seat in the temple of God as 2 Thessalonians makes clear – the Christian church?! – and not some rebuilt temple in the Middle East in Jerusalem as most people think?

The parade of false teachers that have infiltrated the church in our day tickling itching ears are doing a perfect job of paving the way.

“For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but wanting to have their ears tickled, they will accumulate for themselves teachers in accordance to their own desires.” (2 Timothy 4:3)

“For false christs and false prophets will arise and perform great signs and wonders, so as to lead astray, if possible, even the elect.” (Matthew 24:24)

“Nevertheless, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?” (Luke 18:8b)

(Further resources: A Close Look at [1 Corinthians 3 by Chris Rosebrough](#))

(Antichrist and the Devil via [wikipedia](#). [PD-US](#))

# False Prophet Dynamic

"For false Christs and false prophets will arise and will show great signs and wonders, so as to mislead, if possible, even the elect." (Matthew 24:24)

## FALSE PROPHET DYNAMIC

In the verse above, our Lord describes a false prophet dynamic across the age since His ascending to Heaven.

This dynamic will see its ultimate fulfillment near the time of the return of Christ to the earth when a certain and particular False Prophet will arise.

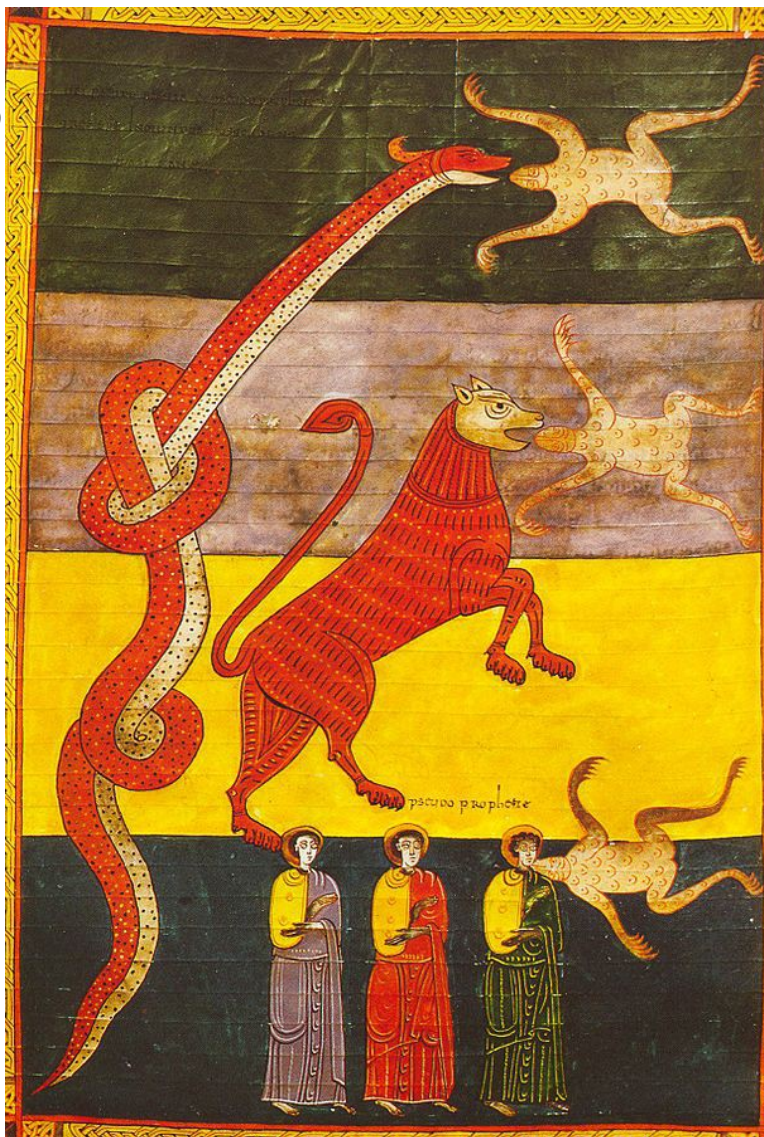
(He is actually referred to as the "false prophet" in Revelation 19:20.)

The book of Revelation goes on to describe him in detail like this...

"Then I saw another beast coming up out of the earth; and he had two horns like a lamb and he spoke like a dragon." (Revelation 13:11)

[Gotquestions.org](http://Gotquestions.org) suggests: "[T]he false prophet comes like a lamb, winsomely (innocently), with persuasive words that elicit sympathy and good will from others."

However "sweetly" he appears, the False Prophet will be nothing less than the final piece completing the Satanic Trinity (along with Antichrist and the Dragon / Devil). (Revelation 13:1-2)



(It is always the height of Satan's arrogance to imitate God.)

## **PURPOSE OF THE FALSE PROPHET**

The False Prophet will have one purpose.

It is to force the worship of (allegiance/obedience/submission to) the Beast/Antichrist. (Revelation 13:1-8, 12b)

He will force worship through the performance of miracles. (Revelation 13:13-14)

He will force worship through the threat of economic deprivation. (Revelation 13:16-17)

He will force worship under the pain of death. (Revelation 13:15)

The False Prophet "destroys the Church from the inside by introducing false doctrines and errant practices." (LSB 2220)

Near the end of the world it will take place in all its fury.

"Let no one in any way deceive you, for [the day of the Lord] will not come unless the apostasy (falling away from the faith) comes first, and the man of lawlessness is revealed, the son of destruction." (2 Thessalonians 2:3)

"For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but wanting to have their ears tickled, they will accumulate for themselves teachers in accordance to their own desires, and will turn away their ears from the truth and will turn aside to myths." (2 Timothy 4:3-4)

"Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God, because many false prophets have gone out into the world. By this you know the Spirit of God: every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God; and every spirit that does not confess Jesus is not from God; this is the spirit of the antichrist, of which you have heard that it is coming, and now it is already in the world." (1 John 4:1-3)

(The False Prophet in Revelation 16 via [wikipedia](#))

# How You Can Be Saved From Hell At The Resurrection Of The Dead



“And the satraps, the prefects, the governors, and the king’s counselors gathered together and saw that the fire had not had any power over the bodies of [Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego]. The hair of their heads was not singed, their cloaks were not harmed, and no smell of fire had come upon them.” (Daniel 3:27)

So it will be for those who repent and believe in Christ crucified for the forgiveness of sins and bear fruit in keeping with repentance. They will be delivered from Hell fire and brimstone, the second death, prepared for the devil and his angels, at the resurrection of the dead.

(The Fiery Furnace via [pcstratman](#))

Visit Pastor Mike's Blog: <http://www.aheartforgod.org>

Follow Pastor Mike on Twitter: <http://www.twitter.com/aheartforgod>

Like A Heart For God on Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/aheart4god>