



Satan's Modus Operandi in the Last Days

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deceitful workers, transforming themselves into the apostles of Christ", they appear as "ministers of righteousness" (2Cor.11:3-15).

Satan knows what his final end will be. Meanwhile, his *modus operandi* (way of operating) is to act as the enemy of God and all that God created. He will continue thus until he is finally cast into that lake of fire which is especially "*prepared for the devil and his angels*" (Matt.25:41).

In this Church Age

The methods adopted by Satan are manifold. In this Church age his activity is largely one of deception. The parables of Matthew chapter 13 spell out how he plucks the seed of the Word of God away from hardened hearts, sows tares among the wheat, places his emissaries in the branches of Christendom and mixes the leaven of false doctrine in the belief systems of the professing Church.

In this age Satan presents himself as "*another Jesus*", "*another spirit*", and propagates "*another gospel*" to the one preached by the Apostles of our Lord Jesus Christ. His tactic is to come "*as an angel of light*" and though his agents "*are false apostles,*

We see Satan's work in the ecumenical and inter-faith movements today as apostates and cults join with "evangelicals" on ministers' fraternals while liberal theologians sow corrupt seed in liberal theological colleges where Calvinistic and Charismatic teaching is rarely challenged.

How awful will be the plight of these deceived agents of Satan when they finally stand before Christ exclaiming, "*Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful (miracle) works?*" - only to hear the sentence, "*I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity*" (Matt.7:22-23).

After the Rapture

Immediately after the true believers in the Lord Jesus are raptured, Satan will continue his work with greater zeal for, at that moment, every human soul on earth will be an unregenerate sinner. Every vestage of restraint will be removed in an instant as the saints rise into the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. But Satan will still have a major problem; Israel.

Satan's Modus Operandi

The entire volume of Scripture is saturated with promises of a coming day **when Israel will crown Jesus Christ as King** and He will reign on the throne of David at Jerusalem. If Israel can be deceived then Satan will triumph over God. At this point in history every saved Jew will have departed with the Church and the remaining rulers of Israel will be fertile soil for the seeds of deception.

It will be at this moment that the rider on the white horse, Antichrist, will appear as John saw him with *"a bow; and a crown"* and he will peacefully *"go forth conquering and to conquer"* (Rev.6:2).

The ungodly shepherds of Israel (Ezek.ch.34) will fall for Satan's deception hook line and sinker. They will welcome the protection of the **Roman prince** to shield the nation from Islamic hordes that threaten them on every side. A **seven-year covenant** will be willingly signed. Like Judah in Isaiah's day, they will say,

"We have made a covenant with death, and with hell are we in agreement; when the overflowing scourge shall pass through, it shall not come unto us: for we have made lies our refuge, and under falsehood have we hid ourselves" (Isa.28:15).

The treaty with Antichrist and the Revived Roman Empire will appear to be a political master stroke and when the *"king of the south"* (Egypt) invades, the Roman

prince will *"come against him like a whirlwind, with chariots, and with horsemen, and with many ships"* (Dan.11:40). The combined forces of Israel and Europe will wreak havoc throughout the land of Egypt and Israel will bask in the glory of an outstanding military triumph (Isa.19:1-17).

The Firstfruits of Israel

At last Satan will have the ancient "people of God" in his hand but all is not well. News will come from the four corners of the earth of 144,000 **Jewish men** who are preaching the **imminent return of Jesus Christ and the establishment of Christ's kingdom** on earth. These must be stopped and all who follow them must be put to death.

While Antichrist is contemplating this, news comes from the north and the east of Israel (Dan.11:44); from Iran, Russia and Turkey; of a massive Islamic army preparing to pour into the land intent on eliminating the entire nation and there is nothing Antichrist can do to stop them.

At first Russia and the Islamists appear successful and the false shepherds of Israel, with two thirds of the Jews in the land, are wiped out (Ezek.34:9; Zech.13:9).

The remnant of Israel will cry out to God and acknowledge Jesus Christ as Messiah, Saviour and King. Immediately God shakes the world with a global earthquake

and meteorites rain down on the invaders. In the confusion, Israel's enemies turn on each other until *"every man's sword shall be against his brother"* (Ezek.38:21) and five sixths perish (Ezek.39:2). The land of Russia is burned (Ezek.39:6).

Meanwhile, Satan's *"man of sin"* is watching from the sidelines. He is angry that all the nations acknowledge this to be an act of God (Ezek.39:23) and since *"all Israel"* has turned to Jesus Christ the now Godly nation will no longer succumb to Satan's deception. The rebuilt Jewish Temple that unbelieving Jews had operated, is now occupied by redeemed Jews who *"keep the commandments of God, and have the testimony of Jesus Christ"* (Rev.12:17).

Satan's plan to deceive Israel is in tatters and there can be only one solution: wipe out the nation of Israel. *"Therefore he shall go forth with great fury, and utterly to make away many"* (Dan.11:44).

War in Heaven

Satan's plan to seduce Israel has failed and drastic action is now required. His anger against God becomes a rage and he gathers millions of his angels in a concerted effort to occupy heaven. *"There was war in heaven"* (Rev.12:7) and Michael, the *"great prince which standeth for the children of Daniel's people"* (Dan.12:1), engages Satan and his angels. The result is never

in doubt.

"The great dragon was cast out, that old serpent, called the Devil, and Satan, which deceiveth the whole world: he was cast out into the earth, and his angels were cast out with him...Woe to the inhabitants of the earth and of the sea! for the devil is come down unto you, having great wrath, because he knoweth that he hath but a short time. And when the dragon saw that he was cast unto the earth, he persecuted the woman (Israel) which brought forth the man child (Christ)" (Rev.12:9-13).

War on Earth Against the Lamb

At this stage Satan's options are running out. He cannot deceive the elect nation of Israel for Jesus said it was not possible (Matt.24:24). He has failed to overthrow the throne of God and his activities are now confined to the earth. Furthermore, if God has His way, there remains only 42 months before the Kingdom of Christ will be established on earth. The only chance of thwarting the purposes of God is to occupy the throne of God in the Temple and totally irradiate every last Jew. However, Antichrist's armies cannot subdue Israel for, ever since the whole nation trusted Christ, the Lord has fought for them. In fact, *"the governors of Judah (are) like an hearth of fire among the wood, and like a torch of fire in a sheaf"* (Zech.12:5).

These Godly Jews *"devour all the people round about, on the right hand and on the left"* and they reoccupy Jerusalem (Zech.12:5-9).

Satan's Modus Operandi

Satan has only one course of action left: it is to mobilize **all the nations of the world** to finish the task of utterly destroying these Godly Jews.

Three unclean spirits are sent from the Dragon (Satan), Antichrist and his False prophet to deceive the nations and to gather all their armies against Israel (Rev.16:13). With 200 million from Asia, surely it will be possible to dispose of every Jew.

Antichrist's own army from Europe will be there for we read that the ten kings of the Revived Roman Empire "*give their power and strength unto the beast*" (Rev.17:13) and

"these shall make war with the Lamb, and the Lamb shall overcome them: for he is Lord of lords, and King of kings: and they that are with him are called, and chosen, and faithful" (Rev.17:14).

The dams in Turkey on the Euphrates River close their floodgates and the river is dried up to allow easy passage for the vast army from the kings of the east (Rev.16:12).

A multi-pronged attack is planned and Satan's armies pour into the land from the north where a massive battle rages in the valley of Esdralon near Megiddo (Rev.16:16). Another army gathers at Engedi on the western shores of the Dead Sea, and drives up the Valley of Jehoshaphat (Berachah, 2Chron.20:26) toward Jerusalem. This battle reaches all the way to Jerusalem and is so fierce that the blood flows to the horses' bridle (Joel 3:2,12).

Finally, Antichrist's armies will reach Jerusalem and

*"the city shall be taken, and the houses rifled, and the women ravished; and half of the city shall go forth into captivity, and the residue of the people shall **not** be cut off from the city"* (Zech.14:2).

If Satan can win this war he has triumphed and God is defeated. God's promises to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob will never be fulfilled unless Israel is preserved and it seems as though the elimination of the Jews has almost been accomplished. But just when all seems hopeless,

*"Then shall the LORD go forth, and fight against those nations, **as when he fought in the day of battle**. And his feet shall stand in that day upon the mount of Olives"* (Zech.14:3-4).

Christ Returns to Rescue His People

At that critical moment the sun and moon are darkened, stars (meteorites) shower the earth and the blackened sky is set ablaze with the glory of God as Jesus Christ appears with all the armies of heaven proclaiming Him King of kings, and Lord of lords. Satan's reign is finished.

A sword proceeds from the mouth of the Lord Jesus as He descends to the Mount of Olives and the armies of Antichrist are smitten in a moment of time. Vainly, Antichrist turns his attention to the descending heavenly host but mighty angels appear and both

he and his false prophet are slain, given a resurrection body, and cast for ever into the lake of fire.

Satan is powerless to resist the mighty power of the Son of God as John described the scene in that future day. John saw

"an angel come down from heaven, having the key of the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand. And he laid hold on the dragon, that old serpent, which is the Devil, and Satan, and bound him a thousand years, And cast him into the bottomless pit, and shut him up, and set a seal upon him, that he should deceive the nations no more, till the thousand years should be fulfilled: and after that he must be loosed a little season" (Rev.20:1-3).

One thousand years of confinement in the bottomless pit in hades with the souls of the unsaved who await the resurrection to damnation, will teach Satan nothing for as soon as he is released he immediately goes out to deceive men and gather the nations against the saints and the holy city Jerusalem, where Christ is reigning.

Satan's Final Judgment

No longer can Satan be allowed to continue his efforts to overthrow the throne of God. Fire falls from heaven and the enemies of God are burned. Mighty angels take the fallen Lucifer and fling him into the lake of fire where *"the beast and the false prophet are"* (Rev.20:10).

Many have asked, If Satan knows his end, why does he continue to fight against God?

When Satan sinned he sinned against God in the **full knowledge** of God's presence. He had been there as a sinless creature and had perfect knowledge of the God of heaven. **There is no salvation for those who sin against light.** When men blaspheme the Holy Ghost they sin against light and there is no forgiveness (Matt.12:32).

Christ did not *"take on Him the nature of angels; but He took on Him the seed of Abraham"* (Heb.2:16). Adam was deceived and so Christ took upon Himself the **form of man** to deliver **mankind** from the snare of Satan that *"through death, He might destroy him who had the power of death, that is the Devil"* (Heb.2:14).

Why Wasn't Satan Judged Long Ago?

The Almighty God has chosen to use Satan to test mankind. Mankind has a choice: dwell in Satan's kingdom under Satan's rule, or choose Christ the Redeemer and dwell in His kingdom. Have you chosen Christ? Remember that the lake of fire is prepared for Satan and his angels and all who choose sin and Satan will be cast into the lake of fire with him. At Calvary Jesus purchased your freedom from Satan's dominion but you must respond.

"Whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved" (Rom.10:13).