STUDY IX THE MAN OF SIN-ANTICHRIST

(1) What is the statement of the Apostle Paul with respect to the "Man of Sin"? And what bearing does it have upon our position regarding the Presence of the Lord? Page 267, par. 1

(2) What general statements respecting this Man of Sin are made in the Scriptures? And what is the important question in our day? Page 267, par. 2

(3) What was St. Paul's anxiety for the Church, and against what errors at the beginning and end of the Gospel age, respectively, did he wish to guard the Lord's people? Page 268, par. 1

(4) Contrast the sentiments of the Church in this end of the age with the attitude of the early Christians, as respects the Lord's return. Page 268, par. 2

(5) Into what error had the Church at Thessalonica fallen? And what was the central thought in St. Paul's second epistle to this Church? Page 269, par. 1

(6) How did St. Paul's arguments differ from such as are used today to oppose the claim that the Lord is present? And what does this fact prove? Page 270, par. 1

(7) Since St. Paul offered but this one objection to the claim of the Thessalonians, did he not thus endorse their general ideas respecting the Day of the Lord? What were these ideas? If, then, this one and only objection offered by St. Paul can be shown to be no longer in the way, what will be our position? Page 270, par. 2

(8) What other names are Scripturally applied to the "Man of Sin"? Page 271, par. 1, 2

(9) Briefly describe the general characteristics of the Man of Sin as indicated by these various appellations? Page 272, par. 1

(10) Since The Christ consists of a true Lord and a true Church, what might we expect to find in this great Antichrist? Page 272. par. 2

(11) In our examination of the prophetic delineation of the Man of Sin, what points do we expect to prove? Page 272. par. 3

(12) What are some of the commonly accepted views regarding the Antichrist? Page 273, par. 1, 2

(13) Considering the tendency of our day and generation, what course would be more likely to be pursued by the world than the foregoing? Page 274, par. 1

(14) What is the great obstacle to many, in considering this subject? And what should these misguided ones note with respect to the Greek word "theos"? Page 274, par. 2

(15) Of what assistance in our search for the Antichrist is a proper understanding of the breadth of the word theos? And what is the New Testament usage in the Greek where the meaning would be ambiguous? Page 274, par. 3

(16) Having this stumbling block removed, what are we prepared to look for in the Antichrist? Page 275, par. 1

(17) What prominent inconsistency characterizes the adherents of the erroneous but popular view of Antichrist? Page 275, par. 2; Page 276, par. 1

(18) Are the titles applied to the Man of Sin literal or symbolic? And do they refer to a single individual? Page 276, par. 2

(19) Should we expect to find the Antichrist among the heathen systems of religion? What was the cause of its rise, and during what period did Antichrist's stealthy beginning take place? Page 276, par. 3

(20) Exactly what do we mean when we claim that the Papacy is the only system which fulfils the prophecies concerning the Man of Sin? Under what figure is the apostate Church represented? And when did this Church become the Antichrist? Page 277, par. 1

(21) Upon what misapplied truth has this false kingdom been built up? Page 277, par. 2

(22) What conditions in the Nominal Church were foreseen by the Lord? And by what methods of false reasoning have all these things been caused to transpire? Pages 278, 279

(23) At what point did the Great Apostasy become the Man of Sin? Did the fact that the organizers and supporters of Antichrist were conscientious make their action right? Define conscientiousness. Page 280

(24) What is the two-fold significance of the name Antichrist? And how are these meanings respectively applied? How does St. John distinguish between the special Antichrist and the lesser opposers of Christ? Page 281

(25) Briefly, how has the Papacy fulfilled the predictions relating to the "Antichrist" or "Man of Sin"? Page 282, par. 1, 2

(26) In noting the circumstances which gave birth to the Man of Sin, does history record any fulfilment of St. Paul's prediction respecting a great falling away from the simplicity and purity of doctrines and life of the early Church? Page 282, par. 3, to Page 283, par. 5

(27) From Lord's "Old Roman World," give brief outline of conditions in the Christian Church during the First Century. Page 284, par. 1.2

(28) What names were prominent in the Church? And what were the conditions during the Second Century? Page 284. par. 3; Page 285, par. 1

(29) During the Third Century, what. conditions obtained? Page 285, par. 2

30) What conditions prevailed during the Fourth Century under which men of rank and fashion entered the Church? Page 286, par. 1, to Page 287, par. 1

(31) Is this description of the great failing away corroborated by other historians? What was the professed motive behind every step toward temporal power taken by the clergy? Page 287, par. 2

(32) What statement is made by St. Paul regarding some opposing thing, which would hinder, for a time, the rapid development of Antichrist? And what was this hindrance" Page 288, par. 1

(33) Contrast the powers and methods of Pagan anti Papal Rome. Page 288, par. 2; Page 289, par. 1

(34) In view of the fact that the coveted seat of power was occupied, what tactics were pursued by ambitious leaders in the Church? Page 289, par. 2

(35) What service was rendered the apostate Church by the Emperor Constantine? And under what conditions? Page 289, par. 3, to Page 290, par. 3

(36) What was the controversy between Arius and Athanasius, which was settled at the Council of Nice? when Constantine decided in favor of Athanasius?

(37) What is the common but erroneous thought respecting the spiritual condition of the Church at the time she was suddenly lifted into power by Constantine? Page 291, par. 1

(38) What statements are made by historians regarding conditions in the Church during the reign of Diocletian, Constantine's predecessor? Page 291, par. 2, to Page 293, par. 1

(39) What were some of the circumstances which favored the rapid development of Antichrist during the reign of Constantine? Page 293, par. 2, 3

(40) After the death of Constantine, what was the attitude of the Roman Emperors toward the apostate Church? And what title was used by them? Page 294, par. 1

(41) Meanwhile, what was the position of the Bishop at Rome? And what circumstances greatly increased his prestige? Page 294, par. 2

(42) What incident in A. D. 455 afforded Leo, the Bishop of Rome, an opportunity to impress upon the Romans and invading barbarians his claim of spiritual power? Page 295, par. 1

(43) What prevailing conditions make it impossible to fix the exact date when the Bishop of Rome began to claim civil as well as ecclesiastical dominion? What claim is made by Papacy regarding the date of its organization? Page 295, par. 2

(44) How long did Papacy exercise its coveted power, after it had been grasped? Into what three periods is the reign of Antichrist divided? And what was the duration and characteristic of each? Page 296, par. 1

(45) How is the rise of Papal power described by Roman Catholic historians? Page 296, par. 2, to Page 297, par. 1

(46) While Romanists present such a glowing account of Papacy's Kingdom, what was the true state of affairs? And what marks distinguish the counterfeit from the real Kingdom of Christ? Page 297, par. 2

(47) Where was the true, the real Church of Christ during these corrupt ages? Page 298, par. 1

(48) In view of the foregoing, where do we conclude that the "Man of Sin" was born? Page 298, par. 2

(49) In proceeding to compare the character of Antichrist with its prophetic delineations, why do we pass over the Emperors of Rome, who claimed to be the supreme religious rulers? Page 299, par. 1, 2

(50) In brief, how has Papacy attempted to fulfill the prophecies concerning Christ's Kingdom? Page 299, par. 3

(51) How has the exhortation of Psalm 2:12, "Kiss the Son, O ye kings of the earth," been misapplied by Papacy? Page 300, par. 1, 2

(52) How have such claims by Papacy been generally passed over by prophetic students? And how have they erred in their search for proofs of the Antichrist in the Papal system? Page 300, par. 3

(53) What have been the evil effects of such misrepresentation of God's plan? While the Reformation accomplished much, what fundamental error of Antichrist was retained by the Protestant reformers? Page 301

(54) Why do many find it difficult to recognize the Antichrist in Papacy? And what facts must be fully appreciated in order to see the greatness of the Antichrist counterfeit? Page 302, par. 1

(55) How can we account for the completeness of this marvelous counterfeit? And how was Papacy's triumph unwittingly co-operating with God's glorious plan? Page 302, par. 2

(56) What incidents favored the claim of the Papal hierarchy to have succeeded to the rights of the Jewish Priesthood? Page 304, par. 1 to 3

(57) Show in tabulated form the Church of God in True Type, in Antitype (during the Millennium), and in the Papal Counterfeit. Page 303

(58) Recognizing each Pope in turn as the head of the false Church, which is his body, what say the Scriptures, respecting the mouth and eyes of this head? Page 304, par. 4 to Page 305, par. 1

(59) How could Papacy fulfill the prophetic and symbolic description of a "beast," and a "horn" out of the beast? Page 305, par. 2

(60) What is the true significance of the word "blasphemy"? Page 305, par. 3

(61) With this proper definition in mind, explain three ways in which Papacy has been guilty of "blasphemy." Page 306, par. 1

(62) Quote some of the blasphemous titles applied to the Pope. Page 306, par. 2

(63) What language was used by St. Bernard in addressing Pope Eugenius III? And how was it received by the Pope? Page 307, par. 1; Page 308, par. 1, 2

(64) What declarations regarding the powers of the Pope were made by Boniface VIII and Gregory VII, respectively? Page 308, par. 3

(65) How did St. Antonius, Archbishop of Florence, apply Psalms 8:4-8 and 9:9 to the Pope? Page 309, par. 1

(66) What appellations were given to the Pope by the council of Lateran, especially to Leo X, in its fifth session? Page 309, par. 2

(67) How has the Papacy fulfilled Dan. 7:25, as shown in Ferraris' Ecclesiastical Dictionary, under the word "Papa"? Page 310, par. 1 to 3

(68) What declaration was made by Sixtus V? Page 310, last par.

(69) Quote some of the blasphemous declarations made by other Popes and lords of the Apostate Church. Page 311 to Page 315, par. 1

70) While these were the boastings of the Dark Ages, what are Papacy's sentiments today? Page 315, par. 2 to Page 317, par. 2

(71) What did the declaration of the "infallibility" of the Pope signify? At what date and under what circumstances was this decree formally promulgated in St. Peter's Cathedral at Rome? Page 317, par. 3, to Page 318

(72) What was the doctrine of Church Infallibility? When was it first claimed? And what has been the effect of this serious error? Page 318, par. 1, 2

(73) Describe how Papacy proscribed the Bible. Page 319, par. 1 to 3

(74) When it was found impossible to prevent the reading of the Bible by the common people, what were some of the pointed notes used in Roman Catholic translations? Page 320, par. 1

(75) What restrictions were imposed by Papacy upon those who sold or read the Bible? Page 320, par. 2, 3

(76) What was the declaration of the Council of Trent with respect to private interpretation of the Scriptures? Page 321, par. 1

(77) What edicts were issued by Pius VII against Bible Societies and also against the use of the Bible in the schools of Ireland? Page 321, par. 2, 3

(79) How did Leo XII and Pius IX express themselves in regard to Bible Societies? Page 322, par. 2, 3

(78) What was the real object of Papacy's establishment of Parochial Schools? Page 322, par. 1

(80) What liberty, respecting the use of the Bible in Catholic schools of the United States, was decreed at Baltimore in 1886? And with what result? Page 322, last par.

(81) What train of errors followed the promulgation of the doctrine of the natural, inherent immortality of man? Page 323, par. 1

(82) What was the object and effect of the doctrine of Purgatory? Page 323, par. 2

(83) What claim was made for "masses for the dead"? And how did this doctrine affect the Papal power? Page 324, par. 1

(84) Describe the doctrine and practice of "Indulgences" with its terrible effect upon the people. Page 324, par. 2, to Page 328, par. 3

(85) How did Papacy begin to "wear out the saints of the Most High"? (Dan. 7:25) Page 328, last par.

(86) When did the true Church flee into "the wilderness"? (Rev. 12:6) Page 329, par. 1

(87) What was the character of pagan persecutions of the Christians? Page 330

(88) Contrast the persecutions of Papal with those of Pagan Rome. Page 331, par. 1, 2

(89) What were the conditions after the accession of Constantine to the throne? Page 332, par. 1

(90) What was Antichrist's attitude toward so-called "heresy" previous to the 13th Century? Page 332, par. 2, to Page 334, par. 2

(91) Was the Lord left without any true followers during the reign of Papacy? Page 334, par. 3; Page 335, par. 1

(92) Describe the Papal persecution of the Albigenses and Waldenses. Page 335, par. 2, to Page 337, par. 1

(93) What terrible persecutions were carried on by Charles V and his son, Philip II, and the French kings, Francis and Henry? Page 337, par. 2, 3

(94) What massacre was ordered by Pope Pius IV? Page 338, par. 1

(95) Briefly describe the most cruel and extensive massacre known in history and perpetrated in the name of religion. Page 338, par. 2

(96) What attitude was taken by the Pope and his court upon the consummation of these terrible persecutions? Page 339, par. 1, to Page 341, par. 1

(97) Describe the Inquisition or "Holy Office." Who was probably its inventor? And how did it succeed in "wearing out the saints"? How many millions of people suffered death through Papal persecutions during the past 1,300 years? Why did rulers and people permit such outrages? Page 341. par. 2 to Page 349

(98) Read one of the authorized curses, published in the Romish Pontifical, to be used against Protestants. Page 349, par. 1

(99) What incidents (of recent occurrence) prove that the spirit of Papacy is the same today as it was in the Dark Ages? Page 350, par. 1, to 353

(100) How is the "Millennium" regarded by Papacy? Page 353, last par.

(101) What incidents marked the beginning and ending of Papacy's Millennium? Page 354, par 1, 2

(102) What four periods more or less distinctly mark the development and fall of Antichrist, respectively? Page 355. par. 1 (with footnote), to Page 356

(103) Give a brief resume of Antichrist's history. Is there any room for doubt as to its identity with Papacy? Page 356, last par. to Page 357, par. 1

(104) In the foregoing study of Antichrist's character, why has no notice been taken of the immoralities and dark deeds of "expediency" practiced by the Popes and under-officials of Papacy? Page 357, par. 2

(105) What is the historian Macaulay's comment upon the polity of the Church of Rome? Page 357, par. 3; Page 358, par. 1

(106) Having traced Papacy's history down to the present time, what say the Scriptures concerning Antichrist's final end? And how shall we understand this statement? 2 Thess. 2:8-12; Page 358, par. 2, to Page 359, par. 1

(107) What suggestion has been made as to the manner in which this closing struggle will take place? Page 360, par. 1, 2

(108) What experiences may the true Church anticipate immediately preceding the severity of the Great Time of Trouble? Page 361, par. 1

(109) In conclusion, what one fact alone proves that Papacy is the Antichrist? Page 361, par. 2