CLUES TO THE IDENTITY OF ANTICHRIST



1 JOHN 2:18

Little children, it is the last time: and as ye have heard that antichrist shall come, even now are there many antichrists; whereby we know that it is the last time.

THE ORIGIN OF ANTICHRIST

Look up the word 'antichrist' in Strong's concordance. Record what it means, and then write a description in your own words. This description will be your first clue to the identity of Antichrist.
"Anti" Meaning:
"Christ" Meaning:
CLUE #1 - Write a description of Antichrist from the meaning of the Greek words:
CLUE #2: Write out some of the words Jesus used to describe the 'antichrist' system. Highlight the phrases that give clues to what "antichrist" is:
CLUE #3: 'even now' - What does this phrase tell you about "antichrist" and why is this significant?
CLUE #4: 'there are many antichrists' – What does this phrase tell you about "antichrist" and why is this significant?
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They went out from us, but they were not of us; for if they had been of us, they would no doubt have continued with us: but they went out, that they might be made manifest that they were not all of us.
1. a) Who are the "they" of verse 19 above?
b) Who are the "us" of verse 19 above?
2. Comment on how Acts 20:20-30 is significant in this context.
CLUE #5: Membership of the Antichrist System. From who or what did this 'antichrist' system originate?
1 JOHN 2 :21 - 22
have not written unto you because ye know not the truth, but because ye know it, and that no lie is of the truth. Who is a liar but he that denieth that Jesus is the Christ? He is antichrist that denieth the Father and the Son.
CLUE #6 - Based on these verses, with what is "antichrist " associated?
CLUE #7 - What teaching does "antichrist" deny?

1 JOHN 4 :1

Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God: because many false prophets are gone out into the world.
1. 'try' - Greek# Meaning:
(Notice that in 1 John 4:1 – 'the spirits' that are to be tested are linked to the 'false prophets')
CLUE #8 : Would the work of the false prophets concern a few people or many? (Use 1 John 4:1 and Matthew 24:11 in your answer) Why is this significant?
1 JOHN 4 :2 - 3
Hereby know ye the Spirit of God: Every spirit that confesseth that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is of God: And every spirit that confesseth 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.
Note: This is one of the most important verses to understand. It gives the test case for Antichrist's teaching.
1. 'confesseth' – Greek # Meaning:
How strong a word is this? Is it talking about a firm belief, or just a casual understanding?
2. 'flesh' - Greek# Meaning:
Note how this word is used in relation to Jesus in the following passages:
Romans 7:5, 18
Romans 8:3, 5, 6
Hebrews 2:14-18
Hebrews 4:14-16
CLUE #9: What teaching about Christ's nature distinguishes between true teachers and those of Antichrist?
CLUE #10: Again, is the Antichrist system something only to exist in the future, or was it already in existence before the New Testament was completed? Why is this significant?