

The last days of truth: Comparing Totalitarianism with Biblical Prophecy in George Orwell's *1984*

Mr. R.Nareshkumar, Assistant Professor, Department of Science and Humanities, Karpagam Institute of Technology, Coimbatore. naresh.eng@karpagamtech.ac.in

Dr. S. Jeyalakshmi Associate Professor, Department of English, Hindusthan College of Arts and Science, Nava India, Coimbatore.

Abstract

The aim of this research paper is to explore the connection between the *Bible's* warning about the Antichrist government and George Orwell's vision in *1984*. The *Bible*, especially in the letters of St. Paul, describes a future system that will take full control over people's thoughts, actions, and beliefs. It will pressure believers to give up their faith or face serious punishment. Orwell's novel shows how such control begins with language, changing how people speak and think to limit freedom. The government in *1984* rewrites history, watches everyone, and removes personal identity, which closely matches the *Bible's* advice of end times. By comparing these two sources, the study shows how the world is trapped in digital and helps us to understand the signs of growing control and loss of belief in today's world. The objective of this study is to explore the similarities between George Orwell's *1984* and *Bible* teachings about the Antichrist's rule and the misuse of power, hiding of truth, and control over people's thoughts, speech, and beliefs.

Keywords: Antichrist regime, Totalitarianism, Biblical prophecy, End times

The *Bible* reveals that in the last days, a powerful system led by the Antichrist will rise. This system will try to control people's thoughts, actions, and beliefs. It will pressure believers to give up their faith or face punishment. George Orwell's novel *1984* shows a similar kind of government one that controls language, history, and even what people think. Though Orwell's throw any idea about the religious idea, it shares many ideas with biblical prophecy. This article compares Orwell's vision with *Bible* teachings to show how both warn about the dangers of losing truth, freedom, and faith.

The *Bible* talks about the last days in many places, especially in the books of Matthew, 2 Timothy, 2 Thessalonians, and Revelation. Jesus warns that false teachers will come and trick many people (Matthew 24:5). He also says there will be wars, disasters, and persecution of believers. Paul writes that people will become selfish, proud, and unloving (2 Timothy 3:2–3). He also says that a powerful leader the Antichrist will rise and demand worship, setting himself above everything holy (2 Thessalonians 2:3–4).

This future system will not just control governments. It will try to control people's minds and hearts. Believers will be forced to choose between staying faithful or giving in to pressure. The *Bible* calls this time one of great testing, where truth will be hard to find and many will fall away from their faith.

In *1984*, Orwell describes a world ruled by a group called the Party. The Party watches everyone through screens, rewrites history, and controls how people speak. It even creates a new language called

‘Newspeak’, which removes words that allow free thinking. The goal is to make it impossible for people to think for themselves or question the government.

The main character, Winston Smith, tries to rebel by writing in a secret diary and falling in love. But the Party catches him, tortures him, and forces him to betray everything he believed in. By the end of the story, Winston no longer loves or questions anything. He has become exactly what the Party wants a person without truth or freedom.

One of the strongest connections between *1984* and the *Bible* is the way both warn about the loss of truth. In the *Bible*, Paul says people will ‘turn away from the truth’ and believe lies (2 Timothy 4:4). In *1984*, the Party’s slogans ‘War is peace, freedom is slavery, ignorance is strength’ are clear examples of lies being treated as truth.

The Party uses Newspeak to limit how people think. If a word doesn’t exist, the idea behind it becomes harder to understand. This is similar to the *Bible’s* warning that in the last days, people will be confused and unable to tell right from wrong. When language is controlled, truth becomes whatever the powerful say it is.

Jesus says that ‘nothing is hidden that will not be revealed’ (Luke 12:2). In *1984*, this idea is twisted. The Party watches everything—not to bring justice, but to punish anyone who thinks differently. People are afraid to speak, write, or even feel anything that goes against the rules.

This kind of control matches the *Bible’s* warning that the Antichrist system will be full of betrayal and fear. Paul writes that people will be ‘treacherous... without love’ (2 Timothy 3:4). In Orwell’s world, even children report their parents to the government. Trust and love are replaced by fear and control.

The *Bible* says that in the last days, many will leave their faith. The Antichrist will demand worship, and those who refuse will suffer. In *1984*, Winston’s love for Julia is a symbol of hope. But the Party destroys that love, forcing them to betray each other. This shows how total control can break even the strongest human bonds.

Paul warns that people will be ‘without love’ and ‘not lovers of God’ (2 Timothy 3:3–4). Orwell shows this clearly. The Party wants people to love only Big Brother. Personal relationships are dangerous. Faith, love, and truth are all seen as threats to power.

Both the *Bible* and *1984* describe signs that show when truth is being lost. The *Bible* talks about false teachers, moral decay, and persecution. Orwell shows how language, media, and fear can be used to control people. Today, we see some of these signs in real life like fake news, censorship, and pressure to follow popular ideas without question.

These warnings are not just about the future. They help us understand what is happening now. When truth becomes unclear and people are afraid to speak freely, the people must be alert. The *Bible* says to “keep watch” (Matthew 24:42), and Orwell’s story reminds us what happens when we don’t.

Though Orwell never uses religious language in *1984*, many readers have noticed strong similarities between Big Brother and the Antichrist described in the *Bible*. Big Brother is not just a party but it is threat like the Antichrist. His image is everywhere, and people are taught to love him more than anyone else. This mirrors the Antichrist in 2 Thessalonians 2:4, who ‘sets himself up in God’s temple, proclaiming himself to be God.’

The Party demands complete loyalty. It rewrites history, controls language, and punishes anyone who thinks differently. This is similar to the Antichrist regime, which will deceive many and persecute those who stay faithful to God. In *1984*, Winston’s final betrayal of Julia and his love for Big Brother

show how fear and pressure can lead people to give up truth and love just as the *Bible* warns that many will fall away during hard times (Matthew 24:10–12).

Even though both the *Bible* and *1984* describe dark times, they also offer lessons. The *Bible* ends with hope a new heaven and earth where truth and love win. *1984* ends in defeat, but it still shows the importance of fighting for truth. Winston's small acts of rebellion remind us that even in hard times, the human spirit can resist.

The *Bible* calls believers to stay strong, hold on to faith, and speak the truth. Orwell's story warns us what happens when we give up those things. Together, they show that truth, love, and belief are worth protecting even when the world tries to take them away. Martin Wight, say that *1984* is 'the Antichrist myth secularized: it is Antichrist without Christ.' Orwell removes religious language but keeps the structure of a system that acts like a false god. Big Brother watches everything, controls everyone, and replaces truth with lies. This makes the Party a powerful symbol of the kind of control the *Bible* warns will come in the last days.

George Orwell's *1984* and the *Bible*'s teachings about the Antichrist both warn about a future where truth is lost and power is abused. They describe systems that control language, thought, and belief. They show how fear and lies can replace love and faith. By comparing these two sources, it has been seen that the fight for truth is not just political or religious it is human. Whether through prophecy or fiction, the message is clearly stated the people have to be alert, protect truth, and hold on to faith.

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