

Revelation 13

Sunday 7-12-20

We are continuing with the third section of the book.

Rev 1:19 Write the things which you have seen, and the things which are, and the things which will take place after this.

- 1) "Things which you have seen"- Christ crucified and risen into glory
- 2) "Things which are"- Seven letters to the seven churches, Christ among the lampstands.
- 3) "Things which take place after this"- climactic Seventieth Week of Daniel, final 7 years of world history.

This final phase "after this" begins with the lampstands in the throne room of heaven in Revelation 4, where we see praising and worshipping as the Lamb prepares to break the first seal of the seven sealed book in Chapter 6:1.

As we have discussed, the structure of the book of Revelation is heptatic- built around "7's".

There are 7 seals on the scroll, six seals, intermission, then seventh seal which contains Seven Trumpets. Six trumpets, intermission (where we are until 15:1), then Seven Bowls.

In this "intermission" period between the Sixth trumpet and the first Bowl, we are also introduced to seven people, or personifications.

- 1) The Woman about to give birth- Israel
- 2) The Man Child - Jesus Christ
- 3) The Red dragon- Satan
- 4) Michael- The archangel
- 5) Remnant of Israel- Surviving 1/3

And the final two introduced here in Chapter 13.

- 6) The Beast- The First beast.
- 7) The False Prophet- The Second beast.

What we commonly call the Antichrist is actually two men. One of the seemingly contradictory things in Scripture is that the "Antichrist" has many OT passages indicating he is Gentile, and many others indicating he is Jewish. When we study Rev 13 carefully, we can infer that the Antichrist is actually two men (First beast and Second beast- also known as the False Prophet), one of them Jewish, the other Gentile.

These two are paired by name in Rev 16:3, 19:20, and 20:10

There are 33 different OT titles for this pair, and 13 NT titles.

When we say antichrist, we think of something horrible, terrible, dark, menacing. This is a misconception! This coming leader will not come in terrifying and destructive; he will be attractive and welcoming. The world (AND ISRAEL!) will WELCOME him with open arms!

2Co 11:13 For such are false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into apostles of Christ. 2Co 11:14 And no wonder! For Satan himself transforms himself into an angel of light. 2Co 11:15 Therefore it is no great thing if his ministers also transform themselves into ministers of righteousness, whose end will be according to their works.

The **term "anti"** as in antichrist can mean adversarial, but it can also mean "in place of"- something standing in the place of something else.

Greek translation: G473 α' ν τ ι anti (an-tee')

A primary particle: opposite, that is, instead or because of (rarely in addition to): - for, in the room of. Often used in composition to denote contrast, requital, substitution, correspondence, etc.

In Latin, this word is translated "Vicar".

Reminder:

Rev 6:1 Now I saw when the Lamb opened one of the seals; and I heard one of the four living creatures saying with a voice like thunder, "Come and see." Rev 6:2 And I looked, and behold, a white horse. He who sat on it had a bow; and a crown was given to him, and he went out conquering and to conquer.

He is such a good counterfeiter that even theologians have mistaken him for Jesus!

Now to Rev 13:

Rev 13:1 Then I stood on the sand of the sea. And I saw a beast (therion- dangerous animal) rising up out of the sea, ("sea" is often used in OT idioms in reference to the

Gentile nations. Ref Is 5:30, 57:20-21 Jer 6:23) having seven heads and ten horns, and on his horns ten crowns, and on his heads a blasphemous name.

See: Rev 12:3, Daniel 7, Daniel 9, Daniel 11.

Rev 13:2 Now the beast which I saw was like a leopard, his feet were like the feet of a bear, and his mouth like the mouth of a lion. (Same beasts described in Daniel 7 but in reverse order. Daniel is looking forward; John is looking back!) The dragon gave him his power, his throne, and great authority.

- Who gave him his power? The dragon.
- Who is the dragon? Satan.

Before we go any further, we need to ask is the Beast a person or an empire? YES! It is both.

See Daniel 8:19-25

The final world empire (Rome- legs, feet, and toes of Daniel 2) is in two phases. Rome was never defeated, it withered and faded away, but it will make a final resurgence and devour the whole earth.

The final Gentile world empire will be a great and dreadful thing, and will have as its leader a beast who comes in peacefully and masterfully, welcomed by all, sought by all, accepted by all, and worshipped by all whose names are not written in the Lamb's Book of Life.

There's indication that Satan himself will indwell the beast. The Dragon gives him his power, which goes far beyond just being a powerful human ruler.

When he goes into the Holy of Holies in the temple and proclaims himself god, and demands to be worshipped as god, he will have shown miraculous capabilities that would give credence to his claims!

If indeed Satan enters him, the last time we saw such an event is in Luke 22:3 where Satan entered Judas to betray Jesus.

In all the world under Satan's domain, the single most important place for him to be was at the betrayal of Jesus!

Remember where the beast comes from in Rev 12 and 17- the abusso. Clearly there is demonic supernatural power at work here that the world has never seen before. After being ejected from the heavenly realm (which we saw in Chapter 12) Satan once again picks the single most important place for him to be; Blaspheming God, desecrating God's temple, destroying God's messengers (two witnesses), and setting up his false religious kingdom beginning at God's Temple, in the Holy of Holies.

Mark 13:19-27 For in those days there will be tribulation, such as has not been since the beginning of the creation which God created until this time, nor ever shall be. And unless the Lord had shortened those days, no flesh would be saved; but for the elect's sake, whom He chose, He shortened the days. "Then if anyone says to you, 'Look, here is the Christ!' or, 'Look, He is there!' do not believe it. For false christs and false prophets will rise and show signs and wonders to deceive, if possible, even the elect. But take heed; see, I have told you all things beforehand. "But in those days, after that tribulation, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light; the stars of heaven will fall, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see the Son of Man coming in the clouds with great power and glory. And then He will send His angels, and gather together His elect from the four winds, from the farthest part of earth to the farthest part of heaven.

Rev 13:3 And I saw one of his heads as if it had been mortally wounded, and his deadly wound was healed. And all the world marveled and followed the beast.

This passage is significant! This head would appear that he was killed and healed (resurrected). I suspect this is fraud, but either way, the world is fooled into believing in his miraculous power. I also suspect that it is at this point when Satan indwells him personally.

This head would be so important it becomes one of his descriptors- (three times in this chapter).

Zec 11:15 And the LORD said to me, "Next, take for yourself the implements of a foolish shepherd. Zec 11:16 For indeed I will raise up a shepherd in the land who will not care for those who are cut off, nor seek the young, nor heal those that are broken, nor feed those that still stand. But he will eat the flesh of the fat and tear their hooves in pieces. Zec 11:17 "Woe to the worthless shepherd, who leaves the flock! A sword shall be

against his arm and against his right eye; His arm shall completely wither, and his right eye shall be totally blinded."

Phinehas?? Num 25, Psa 106.

Rev 13:4 So they worshiped the dragon who gave authority to the beast; and they worshiped the beast, saying, "Who is like the beast? Who is able to make war with him?" Rev 13:5 And he was given a mouth speaking great things and blasphemies, and he was given authority to continue for forty-two months.

"Tribulation" titles in Scripture.

Seventieth week of Daniel- divided into two parts.

Time of Jacobs trouble

Time, (single) Times, (dual), and 1/2 a time (half a year)- 3 1/2 years, 42 Months, 1260 days.

The Holy Spirit has done everything possible to make sure we don't miss the point that this is a literal time period which also happens to be the most documented time period in the Bible.

Rev 13:6 Then he opened his mouth in blasphemy against God, to blaspheme His name, His tabernacle, and those who dwell in heaven.

Matthew 24 (referencing Daniel 9 and 12)

Abomination of Desolation...

Who are those who dwell in heaven?

Rev 13:7 It was granted to him to make war with the saints and to overcome them. (Matthew 16:18 "The gates of hell shall not prevail- overcome- the church") And authority was given him over every tribe, tongue, and nation. Rev 13:8 All who dwell on the earth will worship him, whose names have not been written in the Book of Life of the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world.

Picket fence is gone!!!

There will be only two choices, worship the Lamb, or worship the Beast.

Rev 13:9 If anyone has an ear, let him hear. Rev 13:10 He who leads into captivity shall go into captivity; he who kills with the sword must be killed with the sword. Here is the patience and the faith of the saints.