



Building Wholehearted Disciples of Jesus

Marks of the Beast, Part 1

Revelation 13

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Series: Apocalypse, The Book of Revelation

This is the only book of the Bible that has the audacity to say that if you study me, you will receive a blessing.

Prayer: Lord, You promise a blessing to those who study this book. What detail you have given us about the future. We look for your soon return.

- We will look at the 7 Marks of the Beast over the next two messages.
- We are looking at the rise of two beasts in this Revelation 13.
 - One beast is the Anti-Christ. (vs. 1-10)
 - The other is the False Prophet who will rise to power with him (vs. 11-18) in our next message.
 - This is a kind of satanic trinity: Satan, Anti-Christ and the False Prophet.
- The word “anti” does not mean “against Christ” but rather in the greek it literally means “instead of” or “in the place of.”
 - So when he comes on the scene, he will not come proclaiming to be the Anti-Christ, he will come proclaiming to be “Christ.”
 - He will claim to be the Messiah and Deliverer to many religious groups.
 - And with the growing unrest in our world, there is a growing clamor for a charismatic leader who can bring peace and order to our world.
- There is no one right now across the world who is the defined leader.
- A vacuum is being created.

- We are hearing about the need for a “New World Order” to bring peace and order to our earth.
- A crisis is building, and this crisis will set up the platform for a “deliverer” but it will not be God’s deliverer.
- Man always wants a deliverer. The Jews wanted a Messiah who would free them from the shackles of Rome, not forgive their sins.
- It is no different today: the world does not want a deliverer to forgive their sins, they want a political and financial Messiah.
 - One who can feed the whole world.
 - One who can bring peace across the globe.
 - He will have answers to the Middle East crisis and ratify a treaty that will give Israel permission to rebuild their Temple.
- He will be a financial and political Messiah! Not unlike Hitler in Germany in the 1930’s after the catastrophe of the Treaty of Versailles.
 - He is called in Daniel, “the little horn,” “the king of fierce countenance” and “the willful king.”
 - Paul in 2 Thessalonians calls him “the man of sin”, “son of perdition” and “that wicked one.”
 - John in his 1st epistle calls him “the Anti-Christ.”
 - Revelation gives his most often used name, “The Beast,” and between chapters 13 and 17, we hear that term 26 times.

Revelation 13:1-2

¹Then I stood on the sand of the sea. And I saw a beast rising up out of the sea, having seven heads and ten horns, and on his horns ten crowns, and on his heads a blasphemous name. 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. The dragon gave him his power, his throne, and great authority.

1st Mark: Satanic Power through a One World Leader

- When you read this, you get the idea of some kind of Japanese B movie, Godzilla with 7 heads coming up out of the China Sea.
- It is not describing what you will see, but it is metaphorically speaking, it is symbolic.
- “Arising out of the sea” in chapter 13 seems to indicate that the “waters” are symbolic of the nations.
- In the definite article here, “the sea,” many scholars feel might mean the Mediterranean Sea. This kingdom will arise out of the Mediterranean nations.
- Behind this emerging leader is Satan.
- Beast: like a “beast of prey” is its meaning!
- 7 heads, 10 horns and 10 crowns is slightly different than what we saw in chapter 12. There we see the dragon with the crowns on his head not the horns.
 - The 7 heads seem to indicate 7 world empires that Satan has controlled: Egypt, Assyria, Babylonians, Medo-Persian, Greece, Rome and Rome reemerged and chapter 17 agrees with that which we will cover later.
 - What are these 10 horns and 10 toes in Daniel 2? What is the significance of 10?
 - ♣ Could it be the European Union?
 - ♣ 10 regions of the world?

♣ 10 power bases will emerge and I am not sure how or what.

- We are looking at past World Empires.
- Daniel 7 give us a picture of 4 beasts. Those beasts show up God's view of the flow of world empires.
 - Nebuchadnezzar is represented as gold.
 - Silver is Medo-Persia.
 - Bronze is Greece.
 - Iron is Rome.
- In chapter 7, Daniel sees these 4 beasts emerging out of the sea. Four empires arising at the same time.
- This 4th kingdom will be the amalgamation of all the other Kingdoms and consume them into one Beast Kingdom.
- Where is the United States in this? I think we will be overwhelmed by this Beastly Kingdom.

Revelation 13:3

³And 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.

2nd Mark: A Mortal Head Wound Supernaturally Healed

- This idea of the Anti-Christ being wounded is mentioned 3 times in this chapter, so this is really important.
- It appears that there may be some kind of an assassination attempt that will seemingly be successful, only to be thwarted and the Anti-Christ will live.

- Could it be like a resurrection from the dead? That would sure get everyone's attention!
- Zechariah gives us this cryptic passage.

Zechariah 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."***

- This seems to be cryptic prophecy of the Anti-Christ, that he will be struck in some way on the right side?
- This individual will supernaturally rise again, imitating Christ to the whole world.
- It will even shock the whole world! This will be the resurrection of Babylon with a world leader.
- This will become a designation of the Anti-Christ.
- This may be why his followers will later take on the "Mark of the Beast" that may have something to do with this event.

Revelation 4

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?"

3rd Mark: The World will Worship this Leader.

- This leader will be satanically empowered.
- Satan has raised him up so that he can receive worship.
- The world will be worshipping Satan and the Anti-Christ.

- I believe he has now killed the two prophets, and is setting up a statue of himself in the Temple in Jerusalem.
- He is the god of power and military and he now controls all the militia and no one can take him down.

Example: As Iran rushes to get nuclear power, why is this nation thumbing its nose at America, China and the UN?

- Iran is deeply devoted to the Hidden Imam, a Messiah-like figure of Shia Islam.
- All streams of Islam believe in a divine savior, known as Mahdi, who will appear in the latter days.
- But in Shia Islam, there is a dominant “Twelver” sect in Iran that believes Mohammed Ibn Hasan, regarded as the 12th Imam, will be this savior who will return to the earth.
- They believe that the world will increasingly move into chaos and cataclysmic confrontation with evil and darkness, and this world leader will arise and bring universal peace.
- At the UN speech several years ago, the Iranian president ended the speech with this messianic appeal to God, “to hasten the emergence of your last repository, the Promised One, that perfect and pure human being, the one that will fill this world with justice and peace.”
- What is interesting is just how close the Shia Islam Hidden Imam description fits what we find in the Scriptures to be a description of the Anti-Christ. He will also arise out of the chaos to be a man of peace.
- It is believed he will be in power for 7 years!
- What makes this even more interesting is that there are some who believe that the Shia Islam Mahdi will be Jewish!

According to ancient writings, he will be of the “House of David” and speak Hebrew!

Daniel 11:37

He shall regard neither the God of his fathers nor the desire of women, nor regard any god; for he shall exalt himself above them all. NKJV

- Could this mean that he is Jewish?

Revelation 13:5-6

⁵ And he was given a mouth speaking great things and blasphemies, and he was given authority to continue for forty-two months. ⁶ Then he opened his mouth in blasphemy against God, to blaspheme His name, His tabernacle, and those who dwell in heaven.

4th Mark: A Great Orator who will Speak Blasphemies Against God.

- He uses his speaking abilities to move people to action.
- Example: Very interesting to study the life of Hitler. His revelation and lust for power came as he discovered his ability to speak and move large crowds of people.
- He will only have 42 months to do his thing. Now that’s encouraging to me. He only has 42 months, not 43 months! God is in charge! Only 3 ½ years to do his thing!
- God is in control. 2 Thessalonians says “they refused the truth” and the world will get just what they want. “They will believe the lies of the enemy.”
- He will rant and rage against God, the Tribulation Saints on earth, but also all of us who have been raptured up into heaven.
- He will demand worship of the world. He will set himself up to be god.

- Everyone who does not have the Mark of the Beast will be persecuted and hunted down during this time.
- It will be open worship of the Beast.
- And we are being conditioned for a World Government.
- We are being conditioned for a one world language: English or Chinese.
- It is all on the horizon.

Vs. 7

It was granted to him to make war with the saints and to overcome them. And authority was given him over every tribe, tongue, and nation.

5th Mark: He will Make War on the Church

- He will control all the governments of the world.
- These are the saints that have come to Christ since our rapture.
- Maybe you have been hearing the gospel and you keep saying “I’m not ready.” Well don’t wait too long...during the tribulation it will cost you your head, it only costs you your heart now.

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.

⁹ If anyone has an ear, let him hear. 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.

- If you are saved, your name was written in the Book of Life from the foundation of the world.

- Accept Jesus today! Accept Jesus and your name was written before the foundation of the world.
- Don't accept Jesus and your name was not written in the Book of Life.
- Rejoice!! Open your heart!! It's your choice!!
- Do you have an ear or even two ears? Can you hear His voice today?