**SERMON OUTLINE**

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| **SERMON TITLE:** | 666: The Mark of the Beast |
| **SERMON REFERENCE:** | Revelation 13:11-18 |
| **LWF SERMON NUMBER:** | #2352 |
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1. INTRODUCTION
   1. The time period for Revelation 13 is the Great Tribulation.
   2. The prefix “anti” means “instead of” and “against.”
      1. Satan’s superman, the antichrist, will be against Christ as coming instead of Christ.
   3. The devil has always mimicked God.
      1. The Holy Trinity is God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit.
      2. There will be an unholy trinity: the dragon (who is Satan), the beast (who is the antichrist) and the false prophet.
         1. Revelation 16:13
            1. The dragon is the anti-God.
            2. The beast is the anti-Christ.
            3. The false prophet is the anti-Holy Spirit.

This false prophet will be the sinister minister of propaganda for the antichrist.

* 1. The false prophet will unite the world into a common market, into a common government and into a common faith.
     1. He will do this on behalf of the antichrist.
  2. In this passage in Revelation 13, we will learn four things about this false prophet.

1. THE FALSE PROPHET WILL BE A SERVANT OF SATAN (Revelation 13:11-12)
   1. This false prophet will be a master of deception.
      1. He seems to appear as a harmless lamb, but he speaks as a dragon.
         1. The dragon, the devil, is a master liar.
      2. This false prophet will be the quintessential spin master.
   2. John 8:44
      1. Every time we tell a lie, we are acting like the devil.
      2. This false prophet will be an incredibly clever liar.
   3. 2 Thessalonians 2:11
      1. This passage is referring to the people in the Great Tribulation.
      2. These are people who refuse the truth.
      3. In the Greek, it says that “they should believe the lie.”
         1. This lie may be the false prophet’s explanation for the disappearance of the Christians during the rapture.
   4. This false prophet will be a master communicator.
      1. Matthew 24:24
      2. He will control the media.
      3. He will bend and distort the truth.
         1. His clever lies will sound like the truth and may even include a portion of truth.
         2. He will be persuasive and sound sensible.
         3. He will tell the people what their sinful hearts want to hear and what their deceived minds will believe.
      4. He will have incredible verbal skills and will speak as the devil himself.
   5. 2 John 1:7
      1. There have been other antichrists on the Earth, but there is coming the ultimate antichrist.
   6. This false prophet will be a servant of Satan and will exercise all the power of the antichrist.
      1. This power will be given by the devil himself.
2. THE FALSE PROPHET WILL BE A WORKER OF WORSHIP (Revelation 13:12)
   1. The Holy Spirit of God causes us to worship the Lamb of God.
   2. The anti-Spirit (the false prophet) will cause people to worship the beast (the antichrist).
      1. The devil is not against religion; his unholy desire is to be worshipped.
         1. Isaiah 14:12-14
            1. Satan’s burning desire is to be his own god.
         2. When the devil tempted the Lord Jesus in the wilderness, He tried to tempt Jesus to worship him.
            1. Luke 4:5-8
      2. The devil does not want casualties; he wants converts.
         1. As the unholy spirit, the false prophet will cause the world to worship the beast.
   3. The spirit of antichrist is already in the world.
      1. 1 John 4:3
      2. We are quickly heading toward a one-world religion.
         1. Revelation 13:12
   4. Christianity is becoming increasingly unpopular in today’s society.
      1. The world does not want to hear that there is a fixed standard of right and wrong.
      2. The world does not want to hear that there is only one way to Heaven and that is through faith in the Lord Jesus Christ.
      3. The world does not want to hear that all other religions are false.
         1. There is something very subtle happening in the world today; notice how society is framing certain issues:
            1. Women’s rights is actually about abortion rights.
            2. Death with dignity is about eliminating the elderly.
            3. Sexual freedom really means perversion.
            4. Religious tolerance actually means that it is no longer accepted to say that there is only one way to Heaven.
         2. To preach the exclusiveness of Jesus Christ today is to be called a hate-monger.
   5. All that the false prophet will say will sound believable, necessary and logical.
      1. Matthew 24:24
3. THE FALSE PROPHET WILL BE A MASTER OF MIRACLES (Revelation 13:13-15)
   1. The devil has dark, demonic power to do miracles, and he will give that power to both the beast and to the false prophet.
      1. The Bible calls these miracles “lying wonders.”
      2. These miracles are deceitful in their power and in their purpose.
      3. 2 Thessalonians 2:9
   2. The devil will have a number of tricks in his bag; he will have devilish magic and will have supernatural power.
      1. He will make fire come down from Heaven.
         1. Revelation 13:13
         2. Elijah also called down fire from Heaven.
            1. 2 Kings 1:10
      2. There will be an image of the beast.
         1. Revelation 13:14-15
            1. This image may be virtual reality.
   3. Since this false prophet will be a master of miracles, how will people be able to discern what is right and what is wrong?
      1. With the spirit of antichrist already in the world, we will see more and more of these devilish miracle workers in the last days.
      2. 1 John 4:1
      3. Here are three simple ways to test the prophets:
         1. Does this person, this so-called miracle worker, confess that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh?
            1. If he does not confess that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh, then he is not of God but is the spirit of antichrist.
            2. 2 John 1:7
         2. Does the message, prophecy, sign or miracle glorify Jesus Christ?
            1. John 16:13
            2. If a man claims to be a preacher but he does not glorify Jesus Christ, then he is not filled with the Holy Spirit.
            3. The ministry of the Holy Spirit is to glorify Christ.
         3. Does this person contradict Scripture?
            1. Deuteronomy 13:1-5

If someone performs a miracle but then leads you away from what you know to be the truth, do not listen to the words of that prophet or dreamer of dreams.

If you see a miracle with your own eyes but it does not line up with the Word of God, reject the miracle.

1. THE FALSE PROPHET WILL BE A CONTROLLER OF COMMERCE (Revelation 13:16-18)
   1. This anti-Spirit will turn the world into a vast concentration camp with all of the inmates numbered.
      1. Everyone will have to receive a mark in order to conduct commerce.
         1. Those of us who believe in the Lord Jesus are sealed by the Holy Spirit; we will not be here during the Great Tribulation.
         2. Those who are here during the Great Tribulation when the anti-Spirit is here will not be sealed with the Holy Spirit of God; they will be branded by the beast.
   2. This number, the mark of the beast, is the number of a man.
      1. Six is the number of man.
         1. Man was created on the sixth day.
      2. Seven is the number of perfection.
      3. Man is sinful; he is not a seven but is a six.
      4. The number 666 is man pretending to be God.
   3. We are already headed toward a cashless society, and this branding will seem reasonable, necessary and efficient.
   4. People will receive some encoded mark and will be able to buy and sell.
      1. This technology is already available.
2. CONCLUSION
   1. Everything we see happening today is fitting into the sockets of prophecy.
   2. The rapture of the Church is imminent; it may happen at any moment.
      1. Are you ready?
   3. Do you know Jesus personally? If not, you can pray to Him today by asking Him to come into your life.
   4. Call upon Jesus today. Repent (turn) from your sins, and turn to Jesus. Ask Him to forgive you of your sins, and acknowledge Him as Lord of your life.
      1. Romans 3:23
      2. Romans 10:9-10
      3. Romans 10:13
      4. Acts 16:31
      5. John 3:16