

SERMON OUTLINE

SERMON TITLE: 666: The Mark of the Beast

SERMON REFERENCE: Revelation 13:11-18

LWF SERMON NUMBER: #2352

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1) INTRODUCTION

- a) The time period for Revelation 13 is the Great Tribulation.
- b) The prefix “anti” means “instead of” and “against.”
 - i) Satan’s superman, the antichrist, will be against Christ as coming instead of Christ.
- c) The devil has always mimicked God.
 - i) The Holy Trinity is God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit.
 - ii) 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
 - (a) The dragon is the anti-God.
 - (b) The beast is the anti-Christ.
 - (c) The false prophet is the anti-Holy Spirit.
 - (i) This false prophet will be the sinister minister of propaganda for the antichrist.
- d) The false prophet will unite the world into a common market, into a common government and into a common faith.
 - i) He will do this on behalf of the antichrist.
- e) In this passage in Revelation 13, we will learn four things about this false prophet.

2) THE FALSE PROPHET WILL BE A SERVANT OF SATAN (Revelation 13:11-12)

- a) This false prophet will be a master of deception.
 - i) He seems to appear as a harmless lamb, but he speaks as a dragon.
 - (1) The dragon, the devil, is a master liar.
 - ii) This false prophet will be the quintessential spin master.
- b) John 8:44
 - i) Every time we tell a lie, we are acting like the devil.
 - ii) This false prophet will be an incredibly clever liar.
- c) 2 Thessalonians 2:11
 - i) This passage is referring to the people in the Great Tribulation.
 - ii) These are people who refuse the truth.
 - iii) 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.
- d) This false prophet will be a master communicator.
 - i) Matthew 24:24
 - ii) He will control the media.
 - iii) 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.

- iv) He will have incredible verbal skills and will speak as the devil himself.
 - e) 2 John 1:7
 - i) There have been other antichrists on the Earth, but there is coming the ultimate antichrist.
 - f) This false prophet will be a servant of Satan and will exercise all the power of the antichrist.
 - i) This power will be given by the devil himself.
- 3) THE FALSE PROPHET WILL BE A WORKER OF WORSHIP (Revelation 13:12)
- a) The Holy Spirit of God causes us to worship the Lamb of God.
 - b) The anti-Spirit (the false prophet) will cause people to worship the beast (the antichrist).
 - i) The devil is not against religion; his unholy desire is to be worshipped.
 - (1) Isaiah 14:12-14
 - (a) 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.
 - (a) Luke 4:5-8
 - ii) 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.
 - c) The spirit of antichrist is already in the world.
 - i) 1 John 4:3
 - ii) We are quickly heading toward a one-world religion.
 - (1) Revelation 13:12
 - d) Christianity is becoming increasingly unpopular in today's society.
 - i) The world does not want to hear that there is a fixed standard of right and wrong.
 - ii) 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.
 - iii) 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:
 - (a) Women's rights is actually about abortion rights.
 - (b) Death with dignity is about eliminating the elderly.
 - (c) Sexual freedom really means perversion.
 - (d) 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.
 - e) All that the false prophet will say will sound believable, necessary and logical.
 - i) Matthew 24:24
- 4) THE FALSE PROPHET WILL BE A MASTER OF MIRACLES (Revelation 13:13-15)

- a) The devil has dark, demonic power to do miracles, and he will give that power to both the beast and to the false prophet.
 - i) The Bible calls these miracles “lying wonders.”
 - ii) These miracles are deceitful in their power and in their purpose.
 - iii) 2 Thessalonians 2:9
 - b) The devil will have a number of tricks in his bag; he will have devilish magic and will have supernatural power.
 - i) He will make fire come down from Heaven.
 - (1) Revelation 13:13
 - (2) Elijah also called down fire from Heaven.
 - (a) 2 Kings 1:10
 - ii) There will be an image of the beast.
 - (1) Revelation 13:14-15
 - (a) This image may be virtual reality.
 - c) Since this false prophet will be a master of miracles, how will people be able to discern what is right and what is wrong?
 - i) With the spirit of antichrist already in the world, we will see more and more of these devilish miracle workers in the last days.
 - ii) 1 John 4:1
 - iii) 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?
 - (a) 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.
 - (b) 2 John 1:7
 - (2) Does the message, prophecy, sign or miracle glorify Jesus Christ?
 - (a) John 16:13
 - (b) If a man claims to be a preacher but he does not glorify Jesus Christ, then he is not filled with the Holy Spirit.
 - (c) The ministry of the Holy Spirit is to glorify Christ.
 - (3) Does this person contradict Scripture?
 - (a) Deuteronomy 13:1-5
 - (i) 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.
 - (ii) If you see a miracle with your own eyes but it does not line up with the Word of God, reject the miracle.
- 5) THE FALSE PROPHET WILL BE A CONTROLLER OF COMMERCE
(Revelation 13:16-18)
- a) This anti-Spirit will turn the world into a vast concentration camp with all of the inmates numbered.
 - i) 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.
- b) This number, the mark of the beast, is the number of a man.
 - i) Six is the number of man.
 - (1) Man was created on the sixth day.
 - ii) Seven is the number of perfection.
 - iii) Man is sinful; he is not a seven but is a six.
 - iv) The number 666 is man pretending to be God.
 - c) We are already headed toward a cashless society, and this branding will seem reasonable, necessary and efficient.
 - d) People will receive some encoded mark and will be able to buy and sell.
 - i) This technology is already available.
- 6) CONCLUSION
- a) Everything we see happening today is fitting into the sockets of prophecy.
 - b) The rapture of the Church is imminent; it may happen at any moment.
 - i) Are you ready?
 - c) Do you know Jesus personally? If not, you can pray to Him today by asking Him to come into your life.
 - d) 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.
 - i) Romans 3:23
 - ii) Romans 10:9-10
 - iii) Romans 10:13
 - iv) Acts 16:31
 - v) John 3:16