

The Why and the What "The Antichrist or Christ?" Revelation 13:1-10

FBC Canton, Sunday AM, April 18, 2021 – Bro. Mike Roberson

Introduction:

Revelation 13:1-18 John Brown:

I. INTRODUCTION

A. Last week we studied the war that will take place in Heaven as Michael the Archangel heads up an angelic army against "the prince of the power of the air" ([Eph. 2:2](#)) and his demons.

1. Michael wins of course, and Satan is kicked out of the heavenlies and confined to the earth.

2. That's good news for those in heaven, but Satan pulls out all the stops on earth knowing "that he has a short time." [12:12](#)

3. This morning's study is a result of Satan's "pulling all the stops".

a) Satan empowers 2 great warriors in this battle and one's mission is to cause the other to be worshiped as god!

b) They are referred to as, "beasts" here in chapter 13.

c) But later, in chapters 16, 19, and 20 the latter beast is referenced as "the false prophet."

d) So we have before us "the beastly trinity" of the "dragon (which is Satan [12:9](#), the "beast", and the "false prophet"!

(1) As we study them and their "ministries", you will see their "copycat" resemblance to the Holy Trinity of God!

(a) Satan has always wanted to be worshiped as god!

(b) The "beast" is a "logos" of Satan! He is a physical representative of his!

(c) And lastly, the "false prophet" glorifies the "beast".

Curiosity about the Antichrist's identity is not beneficial, trusting in our Christ is! II Thessalonians 2

2 Now, brethren, concerning the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and our gathering together to Him, we ask you, ² not to be soon shaken in mind or troubled, either by spirit or by word or by letter, as if from us, as though the day of Christ had come. ³ Let no one deceive you by any means; for that Day will not come unless the falling away comes first, and the man of sin is revealed, the son of perdition, ⁴ who opposes and exalts himself above all that is called God or that is worshiped, so that he sits as God in the temple of God, showing himself that he is God. ⁵ Do you not remember that when I was still with you I told you these things? ⁶ And now you know what is restraining, that he may be revealed in his own time. ⁷ For the mystery of lawlessness is already at work; only He who now restrains will do so until He is taken out of the

way. ⁸ And then the lawless one will be revealed, whom the Lord will consume with the breath of His mouth and destroy with the brightness of His coming. ⁹ The coming of the lawless one is according to the working of Satan, with all power, signs, and lying wonders, ¹⁰ and with all unrighteous deception among those who perish, because they did not receive the love of the truth, that they might be saved. ¹¹ And for this reason God will send them strong delusion, that they should believe the lie, ¹² that they all may be condemned who did not believe the truth but had pleasure in unrighteousness.

Who is the antichrist?

The Antichrist is the opposite of Christ in every way.

The Antichrist

Greek, *anti* = “over against”; “instead of.” [Cf. Latin, *Vicar* of Christ.] “Son of Perdition”? Judas Iscariot “Reincarnated”? Ps 55:11-14; Death & Hell (Isa 28:18, Rev 6:8; Mt 12:41-43; Jn 17:12; Jn 6:7; 2 Thess 2:3; Acts 1:25, with Rev 11:7).

He will be: The Coming World Leader

- “Big Mouth” (6X!): Dan 7:8,11,20; 11:36; Ps 52; 2 Thess 2:4.
- The Leader will be the Son of Satan: Gen 3:15; Isa 27:1; Ezek 28:12-19; Rev 13.
- He will be an intellectual genius: Dan 7:20; 8:23; Ezek 28:3.
- He will be an oratorical Genius: Dan 7:20; Rev 13:2.
- He will be a political genius: Dan 11:21.
- He will be a commercial genius: Dan 8:25; Rev 13:17; Ps 52:7; Dan 11:38, 43; Ezek 28:4,5.
- He will be a military genius: Dan 8:24; Rev 6:2; Rev 13:4; Isa 14:16.
- He will be a governmental genius: Rev 13:1, 2; 17:17.
- He will be a religious genius: 2 Thess 2:4 (“Allah”?); Rev 13:3,14,15.
- See also: Ps 10, 52, 55; Isa 10,11,13,14; Jer 49-51; Zech 5; Rev 18

How many people are looking for the antichrist today?

How many have claimed that they are Jesus?

Why do we search for this dead leader when we should be seeking the risen Savior?

Satan desires you to choose him instead of Christ.

Today I am calling you to pursue knowing Christ, not the Antichrist! I John 2:3-6

How do you pursue Christ on an everyday practical level?

Now by this we know that we know Him, if we keep His commandments. ⁴ He who says, “I know Him,” and does not keep His commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him. ⁵ But whoever keeps His word, truly the love of God is perfected in him. By

this we know that we are in Him. ⁶ He who says he abides in Him ought himself also to walk just as He walked.

Know, first of all, His Origin and His destiny! Know Christ's origin and His destiny and pursue Christ!

I. From the untamable frightening sea or from the unbroken faithful scripture.

Manuscript evidence: This is last verse of Chapter 12; "*He stood...*"
John "saw"...

The 1st beast, mentioned 36X in Revelation, is from the sea: Sea = peoples; a Gentile? (Rev 17:15; Isa 57:20, 21). More than just Rome (Lk 4:6,7).

[Review the "Little Horn" of Daniel 7.]

Ten horns = 10 kings (Rev 17:12) and 7 Heads = 7 Kingdoms (Rev 17:9-10): Sumeria (Nimrod, Bab-El), Egypt, Assyria, Babylon, Medo-Persian, Greece, (Dan 2:39; 8:21; 11:2,3), Rome (in two phases, separated by "gap").

That the unbroken faithful Scripture might be fulfilled:

2 Chron 36:22,23

Now in the first year of Cyrus king of Persia, that the word of the LORD by the mouth of Jeremiah might be fulfilled, the LORD stirred up the spirit of Cyrus king of Persia, so that he made a proclamation throughout all his kingdom, and also put it in writing, saying,

Matthew 2:15

and was there until the death of Herod, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the Lord through the prophet, saying, "Out of Egypt I called My Son."

Matthew 2:23

And he came and dwelt in a city called Nazareth, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophets, "He shall be called a Nazarene."

Matthew 8:17

that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Isaiah the prophet, saying: "He Himself took our infirmities and bore our sicknesses."

Matthew 13:35

that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophet, saying: "I will open My mouth in parables; I will utter things kept secret from the foundation of the world."

Matthew 26:56

But all this was done that the Scriptures of the prophets might be fulfilled." Then all the disciples forsook Him and fled.

Matthew 27:35

Then they crucified Him, and divided His garments, casting lots, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophet: "They divided My garments among them, And for My clothing they cast lots."

John 12:38

that the word of Isaiah the prophet might be fulfilled, which he spoke:
"Lord, who has believed our report? And to whom has the arm of the LORD
been revealed?"

John 15:25

But this happened that the word might be fulfilled which is written in their
law, 'They hated Me without a cause.'

John 17:12

While I was with them in the world, I kept them in Your name. Those whom
You gave Me I have kept; and none of them is lost except the son of
perdition, that the Scripture might be fulfilled.

John 18:9

that the saying might be fulfilled which He spoke, "Of those whom You
gave Me I have lost none."

John 18:32

that the saying of Jesus might be fulfilled which He spoke, signifying by
what death He would die.

John 19:28

It Is Finished after this, Jesus, knowing that all things were now
accomplished, that the Scripture might be fulfilled, said, "I thirst!"

a. To the lowest pit of fire or to the highest place of joy. Revelation 20

b. Where is your origin and destiny? Psalm 139

- i. According to the scripture, you were known before you were born,
and when you are born again, your name is known in the lamb's book
of life!

Know secondly his appearance and his nature. Know Christ's appearance
and His nature and pursue Christ!

II. The ugly beast or the lovely lamb. Lamb slain before the foundation of the
earth! v. 8

- Beast out of the sea:
 - 7 Heads, the number of the dragon's heads from Revelation 12:3
 - 10 Horns.

Ten horns are 10 kings of a revived roman empire that will rule the
world. The Antichrist will be of them and from them and rule the 10.

- Heads with the name of blasphemy.
- One of heads: deadly wound healed.
 - i. Made of 3 beasts:
 1. Leopard.
 2. Bear's feet.
 3. Lion's mouth.

*Lion, Bear, Leopard: (reversed); Dan 7:3-8. The lion
communicates arrogantly; the bear controls extensively;
the leopard conquers swiftly!*

ii. 7 heads, 10 horns with 10 crowns.

1. 7 blasphemous names on the 7 heads.

*And after threescore and two weeks shall Messiah be cut off, but not for himself: and the **people of the prince that shall come** shall destroy the city and the sanctuary; and the end thereof shall be with a flood, and unto the end of the war desolations are determined.*

Daniel 9:26

*These great beasts, which are four, are four kings, which shall arise out of the earth. But the saints of the most High shall take the kingdom, and possess the kingdom forever, even for ever and ever. Then I would know the truth of the fourth beast, which was diverse from all the others, exceeding dreadful, whose teeth were of iron, and his nails of brass; which devoured, brake in pieces, and stamped the residue with his feet; And of the **ten** horns that were in his head, and of **the other** which came up, and before whom three fell; even of that horn that had eyes, and a mouth that spake very great things, whose look was more stout than his fellows. I beheld, and the same horn made war with the saints, and **prevailed against them; Until** the Ancient of days came, and judgment was given to the saints of the most High; and the time came that the saints possessed the kingdom.*

Daniel 7:17-22

10 + 1 = 11th horn.

*Thus he said, The fourth beast shall be the fourth kingdom upon earth, which shall be diverse from all kingdoms, and shall devour the whole earth, and shall tread it down, and break it in pieces. And the ten horns out of this kingdom are ten kings that shall arise: and **another** shall rise after them; and he shall be diverse from the first, and he shall subdue three kings. And he shall speak great words against the most High, and shall wear out the saints of the most High, and think to change times and laws: and they shall be given into his hand until a time and times and the dividing of time.*

Daniel 7:23-25

The 11th horn. $1 + 2 + 1/2 = 3 \frac{1}{2}$ years; 42 months; 1260 days.

But the judgment shall sit, and they shall take away his dominion, to consume and to destroy it unto the end. And the kingdom and dominion, and the greatness of the kingdom under the whole heaven, shall be given to the people of the saints of the most High, whose kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and all dominions shall serve and obey him.

Hitherto is the end of the matter. As for me Daniel, my cogitations much troubled me, and my countenance changed in me: but I kept the matter in my heart. Daniel 7:26-28

c. Having seven heads and ten horns: Though this beast is distinct from the dragon of [Revelation 12](#), he is still closely identified with him. He is not the dragon, but he is *like* him, because the dragon also had seven heads and ten horns ([Revelation 11:3](#)).

i. Any creature with seven heads would be hard to kill, because if you wounded one head, six still remained. In Biblical imagery, horns express strength and power. A bull with two horns is a powerful creature, but a beast with ten horns has that much more power – just like the dragon of [Revelation 12:3](#).

ii. This likeness to Satan is just one of the things that identifies this beast with the one popularly known as the *Antichrist*. The word *Antichrist* only appears in the Bible five times in four verses ([1 John 2:18](#), [2:22](#), [4:3](#), and [2 John 7](#)). [1 John 2:18](#) is a good example: *Little children, it is the last hour; and as you have heard that the Antichrist is coming*. With this, John referred to an individual who has captured the imagination of many people, some who don't even know the Bible. But many are ignorant about this person called *the Antichrist*, except what they have learned from movies like *The Omen*.

iii. We can begin by understanding what the title *Antichrist* means. The prefix *anti* may mean “the opposite of” or “instead of.” The Antichrist is the “opposite Jesus”; he is the “instead of” Jesus. Most people have focused on the idea of the “opposite Jesus.” This has made them think that the Antichrist will appear as a supremely evil person, that as much as Jesus went around doing good, he will go around doing bad. As much as Jesus' character and personality was beautiful and attractive, the Antichrist's character and personality will be ugly and repulsive. As much as Jesus spoke only truth, the Antichrist will speak only lies. This emphasizes the idea of the “opposite Jesus” too much. The Antichrist will instead be more of an “instead of Jesus.” He will look wonderful, be charming and successful. He will be the ultimate winner, and appear as an angel of light. In this sense, the Antichrist will be a satanic messiah, *instead of* the true Messiah Jesus Christ.

iv. In [1 John 2:18](#), John also spoke of *the Antichrist and many antichrists*. There is a “spirit” of antichrist, and this “spirit” of antichrist will one day find its ultimate fulfillment in *the Antichrist*, who will lead humanity in an end-times rebellion against God. In other words, though the world still waits to see the ultimate revelation of the Antichrist, there are little “previews” of this man and his mission to come. These are the *antichrists* with a little “a.”

v. Though we commonly call this coming world leader the Antichrist, the Bible gives him many names or titles. He is known as:

- The *little horn* of [Daniel 7:8](#)
- The *king of fierce countenance* of [Daniel 8:23](#)
- The *Prince that shall come* of [Daniel 9:26](#)

- The *willful king* of [Daniel 11:36-45](#)
- The one who comes *in his own name* of [John 5:43](#), whom Israel will receive as a messiah
- *The son of perdition, the man of sin, the lawless one* of [2 Thessalonians 2:3](#)

d. And on his horns ten crowns: This is something *different* about the beast compared to the dragon of [Revelation 12:3](#), who had *seven diadems on his heads*. The seven crowns of the dragon expressed his strength and power, because seven is a number associated with strength and completeness. The ten crowns of the beast express his rule over a group of ten nations.

i. Most commentators think that the ten horns are distributed among the seven heads, but David Hocking sees all ten horns upon one of the heads. The figure of ten horns also associates this beast with the beast of [Daniel 7:7](#), which represent the final world empire of the Antichrist, which the Messiah will ultimately conquer: *After this I saw in the night visions, and behold, a fourth beast, dreadful and terrible, exceedingly strong. It had huge iron teeth; it was devouring, breaking in pieces, and trampling the residue with its feet. It was different from all the beasts that were before it, and it had ten horns.* ([Daniel 7:7](#))

ii. In Daniel's vision, the *ten horns* specifically represented *ten kingdoms* that this final world dictator has authority over ([Daniel 7:24](#)). In John's vision, the ten crowns on the ten horns emphasize this idea.

iii. The visions of [Daniel 7](#) and [Daniel 2](#) also connect the governments represented by the ten crowns with the ancient Roman Empire. In those visions, Daniel saw three successive world empires, each succeeded by a fourth – which in the context of the visions is plainly the Roman Empire. In the days of that fourth empire, the Messiah will come, destroy all earthly rule and reign over the earth. Since we do not see the reign of Jesus on earth in the way Daniel prophesied, we can see that the Roman Empire will “resume” in some way, expressed by this collection of ten crowns.

a. Profane names, or praise evoking names. Isaiah 9:6-7 He shall be called wonderful counselor, prince of peace..

Old Testament Allusions

Adversary Ps 74:8-10; Isa 59:19; Lam 4:11,12; Amos 3:11

Assyrian Isa 10:5, 12; Micah 5:5, 6

Belial Nahum 1:15

Bloody and Deceitful Man Ps 5:6

Branch of the Terrible Ones Isa 25:5

Chief Prince Ex 38:2

Crooked Serpent Job 26:13; Isa 27:1

Cruel One Jer 30:14,23

Destroyer of the Gentiles Jer 4:7

Enemy Ps 55:3; Jer 30:14, 23

Evil Man Ps 140:1

Head over many countries Ps 110:6
 Head of Northern Army Joel 2:20
 Idol Shepherd Zechariah 11:16, 17
 King of Princes Hos 8:10
 King of Babylon Isa 14:11-20
 Little Horn Dan 7:8f; 8:9f
 Man of the Earth Ps 10:18
 Merchant, with balances Hos 12:7
 of deceit
 Mighty Man Ps 52:1
 Nail Isa 22:25
 Prince that shall come Dan 9:26
 Prince of Tyre Ezekiel 28:2-10
 Profane Wicked Prince Ezek 21:25-27
 of Israel
 Proud Man Hab 2:5
 Rod of God's anger Isa 10:5
 Seed of the Serpent Gen 3:15
 Son of the Morning Isa 14:12
 Spoiler, Destroyer Isa 16:4,5
 Vile Person Dan 11:21
 Violent Man Ps 140:1f
 Wicked One Ps 9:17; 10:2,4; Isa 11:4; Jer 30:14, 23
 Willful King Dan 11:36

New Testament Allusions

- Angel of the Bottomless Pit Rev 9:11
- Antichrist, (Pseudo-Christ) 1 Jn 2:22
- Beast Rev 11:7; 13
- False Prophet Rev 13
- Father of the lie Jn 8:44; 2 Thess 2:11
- Lawless One 2 Thess 2:8
- Man of Sin 2 Thess 2:3
- One come in his own name Jn 5:43
- Prince of Darkness 1 Thess 5
- Son of Perdition 2 Thess 2:3
- Star Rev 8:10; 9:1
- Unclean Spirit Mt 12:43
- Vine of the earth Rev 14:18

b. Demands worship, or deserves worship. Revelation 22:8-9

⁸ Now I, John, saw and heard these things. And when I heard and saw, I fell down to worship before the feet of the angel who showed me these things. ⁹ Then he said to me, "See that you do not do that. For I am your fellow servant, and of your brethren the prophets, and of those who keep the words of this book. Worship God."

- i. Mouth.
 - 1. Speaking great things
 - 2. Speaking blasphemies.
 - 3. Speaking blasphemies against God.
 - a. Against His name.
 - b. Against His tabernacle.
 - c. Against those who dwell in Heaven.
 - 4. World follows the beast.
 - 5. Worships the dragon and the beast.
 - a. Who is like the beast?
 - b. Who is able to make war against him?
- ii. One speaks with a bragging voice, the other uses his voice to write your name in the book of life. Of the lamb slain before the foundation of the world.
 - 1. All who are not written in the lamb's book of life will worship Him!
- iii. The people of the earth worship what is popular, the people of heaven worship who is praise worthy.
- c. What is your appearance and character?

Know his power and his purpose, know Christ's power and His purpose and pursue Christ!

III. Given heads, crowns and horns, or possesses many crowns on his one head. Revelation 19

- a. **Destroys saints, or delivers saints. John 8:33** The truth will set you free!
 - i. Empowered by the dragon.
 - 1. Satan's power.
 - 2. Satan's throne.
 - 3. Satan's authority.
 - ii. Will destroy through micromanagement or empower for freedom.
 - 1. He will make war with the saints.
 - a. He will overcome them.
 - b. He will have authority over every tribe, tongue and nation.
 - Jesus has authority for every tribe, tongue and nation.
 - i. Jesus uses his authority to give freedom, give identity over all other identities, and satan uses his authority to divide according to race, and gender and nationality, to take freedom.
- He *overcomes* the saints? (Dan 7:21; 8:12,24; 11:31; Rev 11:7).
 Compare with Mt 16:18 (all saints not necessarily "Church")
 and John the Baptist, (Mt 11:11-13).

- b. Where is your power? What is your purpose?

Know his time and his miracles, know Christ's time and His miracles and pursue Christ!

IV. Temporarily given 42 months or from eternity to eternity. Exodus 3

a. Seemingly healed from mortal wound or triumphantly defeating the grave. Matthew 28:6

- i. Miracles used to proclaim deceit, or miracles down played in order to focus on divine.

Woe to the idol shepherd that leaveth the flock! the sword shall be upon his arm, and upon his right eye: his arm shall be clean dried up, and his right eye shall be utterly darkened.

Zechariah 11:17

- ii. 1 head has a mortal wound.

- 1. Wound was healed.

- 2. World marveled.

- b. When is your time? What is your miracle?

Conclusion: Do you have an ear to hear? v. 9-10

How do you choose good over evil?

Recognize what evils does in contrast to good:

Captivity produces captivity:

That means all that holds you in chains is of Satan.

That means all that Jesus does sets you free.

Killers kill, v. 10

That means all that destroys is of Satan.

Satan makes you suffer, Jesus suffers for you so you will never suffer again!

That means all the Jesus does gives life!

Saints are patient and have faith.

I am no longer looking for the signs of the times, I am listening for the sound of the trumpet!

List of people claimed to be Jesus

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

This is a partial list of notable people who have been claimed, either by themselves or by their followers, in some way to be the [reincarnation](#) or [incarnation](#) of [Jesus](#), or the [Second Coming of Christ](#).



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18th century[[edit](#)]

- [Kondratiy Selivanov](#) (c. 1730s–1832), the founder and leader of the [Skoptsy](#) sect in the [Russian Empire](#).^[1]
- [Ann Lee](#) (1736–1784), the founder and leader of the [Shakers](#). Lee's followers referred to her as "Mother", believing that she was the female incarnation of Christ on Earth.^[2]

19th century[[edit](#)]



[Mirza Ghulam Ahmad](#)

- [John Nichols Thom](#) (1799–1838), a [Cornish](#) tax rebel who claimed to be the "saviour of the world" and the reincarnation of Jesus Christ in 1834. He was killed by British soldiers at the [Battle of Bossenden Wood](#), on 31 May 1838 in [Kent](#), England.^[3]

- [Arnold Potter](#) (1804–1872), [Schismatic Latter Day Saint](#) leader; he claimed the spirit of Jesus Christ entered into his body and he became "Potter Christ" Son of the living God. He died in an attempt to "[ascend into heaven](#)" by jumping off a cliff. His body was later retrieved and buried by his followers.^[4]
- [Jones Very](#) (1813–1880), American [essayist](#), poet, literary scholar, and Greek tutor at Harvard who befriended several prominent American [Transcendentalists](#) and suffered a nervous breakdown in 1837 after which he claimed to have become the Second Coming of Jesus.
- [Bahá'u'lláh](#) (1817–1892), born [Shiite](#), adopted [Bábism](#) later in 1844,^[5] he claimed to be the prophesied fulfillment and Promised One of major religions including Hinduism, Judaism, Zoroastrianism, Buddhism, Christianity and Islam. He founded the [Bahá'í Faith](#) in 1863.^[6] The Bahá'ís believe that the fulfillment of the prophecies of the second coming of Jesus, as well as the prophecies of the [5th Buddha Maitreya](#) and many other religious prophecies, were begun by the [Báb](#) in 1844 and then by [Bahá'u'lláh](#). They commonly compare the fulfillment of Christian prophecies to Jesus' fulfillment of Jewish prophecies, where in both cases people were expecting the literal fulfillment of apocalyptic statements.^[7]
- [William W. Davies](#) (1833–1906), leader of a [Latter Day Saint schismatic](#) group called the Kingdom of Heaven located in [Walla Walla, Washington](#) from 1867 to 1881. He taught his followers that he was the [archangel Michael](#), who had previously lived as the [biblical Adam](#), [Abraham](#), and [David](#). When his son Arthur was born on 11 February 1868, Davies declared that the infant was the reincarnated Jesus Christ.^{[8][9]} When Davies's second son, David, was born in 1869, he was declared to be [God the Father](#).^[8]
- [Mirza Ghulam Ahmad](#) of [Qadian, India](#) (1835–1908), claimed to be the awaited [Mahdi](#) as well as the [Second Coming](#) and likeness of Jesus, the promised Messiah at the end of time. He claimed to be Jesus in the metaphorical sense; in character. He founded the [Ahmadiyya](#) Movement in 1889, envisioning it to be the rejuvenation of Islam, and claimed to be commissioned by God for the reformation of mankind.
- [Carl Browne](#) (1849–1914), American activist and leader of the [Coxey's Army](#) protest movement, claimed to be the partial reincarnation of Jesus.^[10]

20th century [\[edit\]](#)

- [John Hugh Smyth-Pigott](#) (1852–1927). Around 1890 Smyth-Pigott started leading meetings of the [Agapemonite](#) community and recruited 50 young female followers to supplement its aging population. He took Ruth Anne Preece as his second wife and she had three children named Glory, Power and Hallelujah.^[11] The house which may have belonged to Smyth-Pigott in [St John's Wood](#) was visited by [John Betjeman](#) in his film [Metro-Land](#). It is built in the [neo-gothic](#) style. It is currently the home of the television presenter [Vanessa Feltz](#) and was previously the home of [Charles Saatchi](#).^[12] Smyth-Pigott died in 1927 and the sect gradually declined until the last member, sister Ruth, died in 1956.^[13] Her funeral in 1956 was the only time when outsiders were admitted to the chapel.^[14]



[Haile Selassie I](#)

- [Haile Selassie I](#) (1892–1975) did not claim to be Jesus and disapproved of claims that he was Jesus, but the [Rastafari movement](#), which emerged in [Jamaica](#) during the 1930s, believes he is the [Second Coming](#). He embodied this when he became [Emperor of Ethiopia](#) in 1930, perceived as confirmation of the return of the Messiah in the prophetic [Book of Revelation 5:5](#) in the [New Testament](#), who is also expected to return a second time to initiate the [apocalyptic](#) day of judgment. He is also called Jah Ras Tafari, and is often considered to be alive by Rastafari movement members.^[15]
- [Lou de Palingboer](#) (1898–1968), the founder and figurehead of a new religious movement in the Netherlands, who claimed to be "the resurrected body of Jesus Christ".
- [Ernest Norman](#) (1904–1971), an [American](#) electrical engineer who co-founded the [Unarius Academy of Science](#) in 1954, was allegedly Jesus in a past life and his earthly incarnation was as an archangel named [Raphael](#).^[16] He claimed to be the reincarnation of other notable figures including [Confucius](#), [Mona Lisa](#), [Benjamin Franklin](#), [Socrates](#), [Queen Elizabeth I](#), and [Tsar Peter I the Great](#).^[17]



[Krishna Venta](#)

- [Krishna Venta](#) (1911–1958), born Francis Herman Pencovic in [San Francisco](#), founded the WKFL (Wisdom, Knowledge, Faith and Love) Fountain of the World cult in [Simi Valley](#), [California](#) in the late 1940s. In 1948 he stated that he was Christ, the new messiah

and claimed to have led a convoy of rocket ships to Earth from the extinct planet Neophrates. He died on 10 December 1958 after being suicide bombed by two disgruntled former followers who accused Venta of mishandling cult funds and having been intimate with their wives.

- [Jesu Oyingbo](#) (1915–1988), a Nigerian man who proclaimed himself to be Jesus Christ returned.^{[18][19]}
- [Ahn Sahng-hong](#) (1918–1985), a [South Korean](#) who founded the [World Mission Society Church of God](#) in 1964, who recognize him as the [Second Coming of Jesus](#). The World Mission Society Church of God teach that [Zahng Gil-jah](#) is "God the Mother", who they explain is referred to in the Bible as the New Jerusalem Mother ([Galatians 4:26](#)), and that Ahn Sahng-Hong is [God the Father](#).^[20]



[Sun Myung Moon](#)

- [Sun Myung Moon](#) (1920–2012), believed by members of the [Unification Church](#) to be the Messiah and the Second Coming of Christ, fulfilling Jesus' unfinished mission. Church members ("Unificationists") consider Sun Myung Moon and his wife, [Hak Ja Han](#), to be the [True Parents](#) of humankind as the restored Adam and Eve.^{[21][22]}
- Douglas Metcalf (1921–1968), leader of the Full Gospel Mission aka Camp David aka The God Squad, a community based in Waipara in North Canterbury New Zealand. Referred to by the group as Lord Jeheshua.^[23]
- Clyde Benson, Joseph Cassel and Leon Gabor, all pseudonyms for psychiatric patients. In 1959, [Milton Rokeach](#) conducted an experiment by having the three patients who believed they were Jesus Christ share a room at a psychiatric hospital, and published his results in the book [The Three Christs of Ypsilanti](#).
- [Jim Jones](#) (1931–1978), founder of [Peoples Temple](#), which started off as an offshoot of a mainstream [Protestant](#) sect before becoming a [personality cult](#) as time went on. He claimed to be the reincarnation of Jesus, [Akhenaten](#), the [Buddha](#), [Vladimir Lenin](#) and [Father Divine](#) in the 1970s.^[24] He organized a mass [murder suicide](#) at [Jonestown](#), [Guyana](#) on November 18, 1978.^[25] He shot himself after the murders were done.
- [Marshall Applewhite](#) (1931–1997), an [American](#) who posted a [Usenet](#) message declaring, "I, Jesus—Son of God—acknowledge on this date of September 25/26, 1995: ..." ^[26] Applewhite and his [Heaven's Gate](#) religious group committed mass suicide on March 26,

1997 to rendezvous with what they thought was a spaceship hiding behind [Comet Hale-Bopp](#).^[27]

- [Charles Manson](#) (1934–2017), American criminal, [cult](#) leader, and songwriter.^[28]
- [Yahweh ben Yahweh](#) (1935–2007), born as Hulon Mitchell Jr., a black nationalist and separatist who created the [Nation of Yahweh](#) in 1979 in [Liberty City, Florida](#). His self-proclaimed name means "God, Son of God". He could have only been deeming himself to be "son of God", not God, but many of his followers clearly deem him to be God Incarnate.^{[29][30]} In 1992, he was convicted of conspiracy to commit murder and sentenced to 18 years in prison.^[31]
- [Laszlo Toth](#) (1938–2012), [Hungarian](#)-born [Australian](#) who claimed he was Jesus Christ as he vandalized [Michelangelo's Pietà](#) with a geologist's hammer in 1972.^{[32][33]}
- [Wayne Bent](#) (1941–), also known as Michael Travesser of the [Lord Our Righteousness Church](#). He claims: "I am the embodiment of God. I am divinity and humanity combined."^[34] He was convicted on 15 December 2008 of one count of criminal sexual contact of a minor and two counts of contributing to the delinquency of a minor in 2008.^[35]
- [Ariffin Mohammed](#) (1943–2016), also known as "Ayah Pin", the founder of the banned [Sky Kingdom](#) in [Malaysia](#) in 1975. He claimed to have direct contact with the heavens and is believed by his followers to have been the incarnation of Jesus, as well as [Shiva](#), and the [Buddha](#), and [Muhammad](#).^[36]
- [Mitsuo Matayoshi](#) (1944–2018) was a [conservative Japanese politician](#), who in 1997 established the [World Economic Community Party](#) based on his conviction that he is God and Christ, renaming himself Iesu Matayoshi. According to his program he will do the [Last Judgment](#) as Christ but within the current political system.^{[37][38]}
- [Tony Quinn](#) (1944–), an [Irish](#) businessman, whose followers believed him to be Jesus Christ.^{[39][40]}
- [Hogen Fukunaga](#) (1945–) founded [Ho No Hana Sanpogyo](#), often called the "foot reading cult", in Japan in 1987 after an alleged [spiritual](#) event where he claimed to have realized he was the reincarnation of Jesus Christ and [Gautama Buddha](#).^[41]
- [José Luis de Jesús](#) (1946–2013), [Puerto Rican](#) founder, leader and organizer of Growing in Grace based in [Miami, Florida](#), who claimed that the resurrected Christ "integrated himself within me" in 2007.^[42]
- [Inri Cristo](#) (1948–), a [Brazilian](#) who claims to be the second Jesus reincarnated in 1969.^[43] [Brasília](#) is considered by Inri Cristo and his disciples as the [New Jerusalem](#) of the [Apocalypse](#).
- [Thomas Harrison Provenzano](#)^[44] (1949–2000), an [American](#) convicted murderer who was possibly mentally ill. He compared his [execution](#) with [Jesus Christ's crucifixion](#).^[45]
- [Shoko Asahara](#) (1955–2018) founded the terrorist [Japanese](#) religious group [Aum Shinrikyo](#) in 1984. He declared himself Christ, Japan's only fully enlightened master and the [Lamb of God](#). His purported mission was to take upon himself the sins of the world. He outlined a doomsday prophecy, which included a [Third World War](#), and described a final conflict culminating in a [nuclear Armageddon](#), borrowing the term from the [Book of Revelation 16:16](#).^[46] Humanity would end, except for the elite few who joined Aum.^[46] The group gained international notoriety on March 20, 1995, when it carried out the [sarin](#)

[gas attack on the Tokyo subway](#). He was [sentenced to death](#), and was executed on 6 July 2018.

- Stuart Walker (born 1957), leader of a group called "The Pod" in Mona Vale, Sydney, Australia. He also claimed to be Tutankhamun and various other deities. He also claimed to converse with whales. He was eventually imprisoned for drug offences.^[47]
- [David Koresh](#) (1959–1993), born Vernon Wayne Howell, was the leader of a [Branch Davidian](#) religious sect in [Waco, Texas](#), though never directly claiming to be Jesus himself, proclaimed that he was the final prophet and "the Son of God, the Lamb" in 1983. In 1993, a raid by the U.S. [BATF](#), and the [subsequent siege](#) by the [FBI](#) ended with [Branch Davidian ranch](#) burning to the ground. Koresh, 54 adults and 21 children were found dead after the fire extinguished itself.^[48]
- [Marina Tsvigun](#) (1960–), or Maria Devi Christos, is the leader of the [Great White Brotherhood](#).^[49] In 1990 she met Yuri Krivonogov, the Great White Brotherhood founder, who recognized Marina as a new messiah and later married her, assuming in the sect the role of [John the Baptist](#), subordinate to Tsvigun.



Sergey Torop ([Vissarion](#))

- [Sergey Torop](#) (1961–), a [Russian](#) former traffic cop who claims to be "reborn" as [Vissarion](#), Jesus Christ returned, which makes him not "God" but the "[Word of God](#)". Also known as "Jesus of Siberia," Torop has an appearance similar to depictions of Jesus. He dresses in all white flowing robes and has long brown hair and a beard. Before claiming to be the Vissarion, Torop worked as a traffic policeman until he was fired in 1990. He founded the [Church of the Last Testament](#) and the spiritual community [Ecopolis Tiberkul](#) in Southern [Siberia](#) in 1990. The Church of the Last Testament has been described as being a mixture of beliefs from the Russian Orthodox Church, Buddhism, apocalypticism, collectivism, and with ecological values. The church currently resides on the largest religious reservation in the world in Siberian Taiga.^{[50][51]}



Alan John Miller and Mary Luck ([Divine Truth](#))



[David Shayler](#)

- [Apollo Quiboloy](#) (1950–) is the founder and leader of a Philippines-based [Restorationist](#) church, the [Kingdom of Jesus Christ](#), The Name Above Every Name, Inc. He has made claims that he is the "Appointed Son of God".^[52]
- [Hasan Mezarci](#) (1954–) is a former politician and member of the Grand National Assembly of Turkey (1991–1995) who was expelled from the [Welfare Party](#) and imprisoned for his extreme view against [secularism](#). He claimed to be [Isa](#) after his imprisonment.
- Ante Pavlović (1957–2020), Croatian chiropractor.^[53]
- [Alan John Miller](#) (1962–), more commonly known as A.J. Miller, a former [Jehovah's Witness](#) elder and current leader of the Australia-based [Divine Truth](#) movement.^[54] Miller claims to be Jesus Christ reincarnated with others in the 20th century to spread messages that he calls the "Divine Truth". He delivers these messages in seminars and various forms of media along with his current partner Mary Suzanne Luck, who identifies herself as the returned [Mary Magdalene](#).^[55]
- [David Shayler](#) (1965–) is a former [MI5](#) agent and whistleblower who, in the summer of 2007, proclaimed himself to be the Messiah. He has released a series of videos on [YouTube](#) claiming to be Jesus, although he has not built up any noticeable following since his claims.^{[56][57]}
- [Maurice Clemmons](#) (1972–2009), an American felon responsible for the 2009 murder of four police officers in Washington state, referred to himself in May 2009 as Jesus.^[58]
- [Oscar Ramiro Ortega-Hernandez](#) (1990–). In November 2011, he fired nine shots with a Romanian Cugir SA [semi-automatic rifle](#) at the [White House](#) in Washington D.C.,

believing himself to be Jesus Christ sent to kill U.S. President [Barack Obama](#), whom he believed to be the [antichrist](#).^{[59][60]}

- [Todd Kincannon](#) (1981-), former head of the [South Carolina Republican Party](#), was arrested in 2018 for killing and mutilating his mother's dog. He claimed to police he was the second coming of Jesus Christ and that God had told him to do it, because "every 1,000 years there needs to be a sacrifice and blood must be spilt." ^[61]

The Bible says we cannot know the time of the Lord's return (Matthew 25:13). But the Scriptures make it equally clear that **we can know the season of the Lord's return** (1 Thessalonians 5:2-6):

"You yourselves know full well that the day of the Lord will come just like a thief in the night... But you brethren, are not in darkness, that the day should overtake you like a thief; for you are all sons of light and sons of day. We are not of night or darkness; so then let us not sleep as others do, but let us be alert and sober."

This passage asserts that Jesus is coming like *"a thief in the night."* But then it proceeds to make it clear that this will be true only for the pagan world and not for believers. **His return should be no surprise to those who know Him and His Word**, for they have the indwelling of the Holy Spirit to give them understanding of the nature of the times.

Furthermore, **the Scriptures give us signs to watch for** — signs that will signal that Jesus is ready to return. The writer of the Hebrew letter referred to these signs when he proclaimed that believers should encourage one another when they see the day of judgment drawing near (Hebrews 10:25-27). Jesus also referred to the end time signs in His Olivet Discourse, given during the last week of His life (Matthew 24 and Luke 21). Speaking of a whole series of signs which He had given to His disciples, He said, *"When you see all these things, recognize that He [the Son of Man — that is, Jesus] is near, right at the door"* (Matthew 24:33).

Since the time of the Balfour Declaration, we have witnessed sign after sign pointing to the Lord's soon return. There are so many of these signs today, in fact, that **one would have to be either biblically illiterate or spiritually blind not to realize that we are living on borrowed time**.

I have personally been searching the Bible for years in an effort to identify all the signs, and it has not been an easy task to get a hold on them. That's because there are so many of them, both in the Old and New Testaments.

I have found that the best way to deal with them is to put them in categories, and in doing that, **I have come up with six categories of end time signs**: the Signs of Nature, the Signs of Society, the Spiritual Signs, the Signs of World Politics, the Signs of Technology, and the Signs of Israel. (You can learn more about these six categories by watching this week's episode of [Christ in Prophecy](#) or reading the full article on our [website](#).)

Each category contains many prophecies concerning the end times, all of which are being fulfilled before our very eyes. **Here specifically are listed 50 of those prophecies**:



1. Increasing instability of nature. (Matthew 24:7 & Luke 21:11)
2. Increasing lawlessness and violence. (Matthew 24:12)
3. Increasing immorality. (Matthew 24:37)
4. Increasing materialism. (2 Timothy 3:2)
5. Increasing Hedonism. (2 Timothy 3:4)
6. Increasing influence of Humanism. (2 Timothy 3:2)
7. Depraved entertainment. (2 Timothy 3:4)
8. Calling evil good and good evil. (2 Timothy 3:3 & Isaiah 5:20)
9. Increasing use of drugs. (2 Timothy 3:3)
10. Increasing blasphemy. (2 Timothy 3:2)
11. Increasing paganism. (2 Timothy 3:1-4)
12. Increasing despair. (2 Timothy 3:1)
13. Signs in the heavens. (Luke 21:11,25)
14. Increasing knowledge. (Daniel 12:4)
15. Increasing travel. (Daniel 12:4)
16. The explosion of cults. (Matthew 24:11)
17. The proliferation of false christs. (Matthew 24:5)
18. Increasing apostasy in the Church. (2 Timothy 4:3-5)
19. Increasing attacks on Jesus. (Romans 1:18-19)
20. Increasing attacks on the Bible. (Romans 1:18-19)
21. Increasing persecution of Christians. (Matthew 24:9)
22. Increasing occultism. (1 Timothy 4:1)
23. Wars and rumors of wars. (Matthew 24:6)
24. Weapons of mass destruction. (Luke 21:26)
25. Increasing famine. (Luke 21:11)
26. Increasing pestilence. (Luke 21:11)
27. Computer technology. (Revelation 13:7)
28. Television. (Revelation 11:8-9)
29. Satellite technology. (Revelation 11:8-9)
30. Virtual reality. (Revelation 13:14-15)
31. Unification of Europe. (Daniel 2 & 7)
32. Far Eastern military powers. (Revelation 9:16 & 16:12)
33. Movement toward world government. (Daniel 7:23-26)
34. Regathering of the Jews. (Isaiah 11:10-12)
35. Re-establishment of Israel. (Isaiah 66:7-8)
36. Reclamation of the land of Israel. (Ezekiel 36:34-35)
37. Revival of Biblical Hebrew. (Zephaniah 3:9; Jeremiah 31:23)
38. Re-occupation of Jerusalem. (Luke 21:24)
39. Resurgence of the Israeli military. (Zechariah 12:6)
40. Re-focusing of world politics on Israel. (Zechariah 12:3)
41. Russian threat to Israel. (Ezekiel 38 and 39)
42. Arab threat to Israel. (Ezekiel 35 and 36)
43. Denial of the Second Coming. (2 Peter 3:3-4)
44. Denial of creation by God. (Romans 1:18-22)
45. Outpouring of the Holy Spirit. (Joel 2:28-29)
46. Translation of the Bible into many languages. (Matthew 24:14)
47. Preaching of the Gospel worldwide. (Matthew 24:14)
48. The revival of Messianic Judaism. (Romans 9:27)
49. The revival of Davidic praise worship. (Amos 9:11)
50. The understanding of Bible prophecy. (Daniel 12:8-9)

This list could be greatly expanded, but **the 50 examples above should be sufficient to show that we are living in the season of the Lord's return.**

The Bible clearly teaches that God never pours out His wrath without warning for He is a just and loving God who does not wish that any should perish (2 Peter 3:9). That's why **He has provided so many signs to alert us to the fact that we are living on the threshold of the Tribulation.**

The Message

The bottom line message of the signs is that we are living on borrowed time. And the crucial question for every human being is "Are you ready?" Are you ready for the return of Jesus? Will He come as your Blessed Hope or your Holy Terror?

It will be one or the other, for **God is determined to deal with sin, and He does so with either grace or wrath** (John 3:36). If you have put your faith in Jesus as your Lord and Savior, then you are under God's grace. Your sins have been forgiven and forgotten, and you can look forward with confidence to that glorious day when Jesus will appear in the heavens.

But if you have never received Jesus as your Lord and Savior, you are under the wrath of God, and you have nothing to look forward to except the terror of His wrath.

The choice is yours. I personally cannot understand why anyone would turn their back on God's free gift of grace through faith in His Son. **I have placed my faith in Jesus, and I therefore am able to look forward to His soon return with great anticipation and expectation.** All that is within me cries out, *"Maranatha! Come quickly Lord Jesus"* (1 Corinthians 16:22).

The Book of Revelation Chuck Missler

Session 18: The Two Beasts

Revelation Chapter 13

The Seven Personages

- The Woman
- Man-Child
- Red Dragon
- Michael
- The Remnant of Israel
- **The Beast out of the Sea**
- **The Beast out of the Earth...both are featured in this chapter.**

The Seventh Trumpet introduces seven personages: [Note: the Jewishness of these parenthetical passages!]

The Beast out of the Sea

1] And I stood upon the sand of the sea, and saw a beast rise up out of the sea, having seven heads and ten horns, and upon his horns ten crowns, and upon his heads the name of blasphemy.

Manuscript evidence: This is last verse of Chapter 12; *"He stood..."*

John “saw”...

The 1st beast, mentioned 36X in Revelation, is from the sea: Sea = peoples; a Gentile? (Rev 17:15; Isa 57:20, 21). More than just Rome (Lk 4:6,7).

[Review the “Little Horn” of Daniel 7.]

Ten horns = 10 kings (Rev 17:12) and 7 Heads = 7 Kingdoms (Rev 17:9-10): Sumeria (Nimrod, Bab-El), Egypt, Assyria, Babylon, Medo-Persian, Greece, (Dan 2:39; 8:21; 11:2,3), Rome (in two phases, separated by “gap”).

[Contrast conquest of Canaan: original ten; Amalekites (Edomites), Moabites, Midianites, three; seven left for Joshua.]

2] And the beast which I saw was like unto a leopard, and his feet were as *the feet* of a bear, and his mouth as the mouth of a lion: and the dragon gave him his power, and his seat, and great authority.

Lion, Bear, Leopard: (*reversed*); Dan 7:3-8. The lion communicates arrogantly; the bear controls extensively; the leopard conquers swiftly!

3] And I saw one of his heads as it were wounded to death; and his deadly wound was healed: and all the world wondered after the beast.

Woe to the idol shepherd that leaveth the flock! the sword shall be upon his arm, and upon his right eye: his arm shall be clean dried up, and his right eye shall be utterly darkened.

Zechariah 11:17

4] And they worshipped the dragon which gave power unto the beast: and they worshipped the beast, saying, Who *is* like unto the beast? Who is able to make war with him?

They *worshipped* him!

5] And there was given unto him a mouth speaking great things and blasphemies; and power was given unto him to continue forty *and* two months.

6] And he opened his mouth in blasphemy against God, to blaspheme his name, and his tabernacle, and them that dwell in heaven.

“Mr. Big Mouth”: Cf. Daniel 7:8, 25; 11:36-38; 2 Thess 2:4.

7] And it was given unto him to make war with the saints, and to overcome them: and power was given him over all kindreds, and tongues, and nations.

He *overcomes* the saints? (Dan 7:21; 8:12,24; 11:31; Rev 11:7). Compare with Mt 16:18 (all saints not necessarily “Church”) and John the Baptist, (Mt 11:11-13).

8] And all that dwell upon the earth shall worship him, whose names are not written in the book of life of the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world.

“They that dwell upon the earth”: 13X. *Cosmos* = world: Mt 4:8-9; Jn 12:31; 14:30; 18:36; Eph 2:2; 6:12; 1 Jn 2:15-17.

“Book of Life”: known to Moses, Ex 32:32; Dan 12:1 (Isa 4:3?); 1 Pet 1:19, 20 (“from the foundation” refers to “written,” not “slain”); Lk 10:17-20.

9] If any man have an ear, let him hear.

10] He that leadeth into captivity shall go into captivity: he that killeth with the sword must be killed with the sword. Here is the patience and the faith of the

saints.

The Beast out of the Earth

11] And I beheld another beast coming up out of the earth; and he had two horns like a lamb, and he spake as a dragon.

The second beast (v.11) is from the earth: *eretz* (Israel?) Jn 5:43; 3X:

“false prophet.”

“Horns” = authority, dominion.

“Spake”: Gen 3:1; 49:17; 2 Cor 11:3.

This leader may be a Jew: Ezek 21:25-27; Ezek 28:2-10 (of the circumcision);

Dan 11:36, 37; John 5:43 (*allos*, not *heteros*). He is received by

Israel (Ps 55).

12] And he exerciseth all the power of the first beast before him, and causeth the earth and them which dwell therein to worship the first beast, whose deadly wound was healed.

Spirit possessed: Acts 16:16-18; 19:15, 16.

Satan + the 1st and 2nd beasts = Satanic trinity?

13] And he doeth great wonders, so that he maketh fire come down from heaven on the earth in the sight of men,

14] And deceiveth them that dwell on the earth by *the means of* those miracles which he had power to do in the sight of the beast; saying to them that dwell on the earth, that they should make an image to the beast, which had the wound by a sword, and did live.

Signs, miracles, see Jannes & Jambres: Ex 7:11; 2 Tim 3:8; 2 Thess 2:9-

11 (cf. 2 witnesses). [Note the head wound as his identifier, again.]

Prophecy, not “signs and wonders” is Jesus’ primary evidence: Mt 11:1-6.

“Image”: 7 passages—13:15; 14:9,11; 15:2; 16:2; 19:20; 20:4; cf. Dan 2, 3;

Ps 73:20

15] And he had power to give life unto the image of the beast, that the image of the beast should both speak, and cause that as many as would not worship the image of the beast should be killed.

16] And he causeth all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and bond, to receive a mark in their right hand, or in their foreheads:

17] And that no man might buy or sell, save he that had the mark, or the name of the beast, or the number of his name.

“mark”: *ca,ragma charagma*: brand, seal.

A mark is prohibited: Lev 19:28;21:5; Deut 14:1; Isa 49:16; Ezek 9:4; Ex 13:9, 16.

18] Here is wisdom. Let him that hath understanding count the number of the beast: for it is the number of a man; and his number *is* Six hundred threescore *and* six.

6 = number of man: Sabbath for man, (6 days +1); Goliath: 6 cubits; 6

sheckel spear; 6 pieces of armor; etc. Nebuchadnezzar’s image: 60 cubits

high, 6 cubits wide; 6 instruments of music.

Solomon as a Type? 666: 1 Kgs 10:14; 2 Chr 9:13; [Ezra 2:13 vs. Neh 7:18];

Queen of Sheba? Goddess of Fortresses? Six steps to throne; founded

commerce, banking, trading in horses (vs. Deut 17:16); “*Magen David*” = *occultic* “Seal of Solomon.”

666

Letters in Hebrew, Greek, and Latin have numerical equivalents.

Roman numerals add up to 666; Arabic numbers from 1 to 62 (36) add up to 666 (some MSS read 616); It is the number of man, not God! See chart.

Forms of Gematria

- *Ragil* (nominal)
- *Kolel*, the *ragil* values plus the number of letters in the word.
- *Katan*, small values; all tens and hundreds reduced to 1 - 9 by summing the digits. (Also called “reduced” values.)
- *Hakadmi*, nominal values plus the values of each letter preceding it.
- *Hameruba Haklali*, the value of the word *squared*.
- *Hameruba Haperati*, the sum of the squares of each individual letter.
- *Miluy*, the sums of the values of the *names* of each letter that makes up the word. (Also called “filling.”)

Whose Number?

- Insertable chips, RFID, bar codes, etc. for implementation?
- Remember: it is *His* number and name that are the critical identity issues.

The Antichrist

Greek, *anti* = “over against”; “instead of.” [Cf. Latin, *Vicar* of Christ.] “Son of Perdition”? Judas Iscariot “Reincarnated”? Ps 55:11-14; Death & Hell (Isa 28:18, Rev 6:8; Mt 12:41-43; Jn 17:12; Jn 6:7; 2 Thess 2:3; Acts 1:25, with Rev 11:7).

Old Testament Allusions

Adversary Ps 74:8-10; Isa 59:19; Lam 4:11,12; Amos 3:11

Assyrian Isa 10:5, 12; Micah 5:5, 6

Belial Nahum 1:15

Bloody and Deceitful Man Ps 5:6

Branch of the Terrible Ones Isa 25:5

Chief Prince Ex 38:2

Crooked Serpent Job 26:13; Isa 27:1

Cruel One Jer 30:14,23

Destroyer of the Gentiles Jer 4:7

Enemy Ps 55:3; Jer 30:14, 23

Evil Man Ps 140:1

Head over many countries Ps 110:6

Head of Northern Army Joel 2:20

Idol Shepherd Zech 11:16, 17

King of Princes Hos 8:10

King of Babylon Isa 14:11-20

Little Horn Dan 7:8f; 8:9f
Man of the Earth Ps 10:18
Merchant, with balances Hos 12:7
of deceit
Mighty Man Ps 52:1
Nail Isa 22:25
Prince that shall come Dan 9:26
Prince of Tyre Ezek 28:2-10
Profane Wicked Prince Ezek 21:25-27
of Israel
Proud Man Hab 2:5
Rod of God's anger Isa 10:5
Seed of the Serpent Gen 3:15
Son of the Morning Isa 14:12
Spoiler, Destroyer Isa 16:4,5
Vile Person Dan 11:21
Violent Man Ps 140:1f
Wicked One Ps 9:17; 10:2,4; Isa 11:4; Jer 30:14, 23
Wilful King Dan 11:36

New Testament Allusions

- Angel of the Bottomless Pit Rev 9:11
- Antichrist, (Pseudo-Christ) 1 Jn 2:22
- Beast Rev 11:7; 13
- False Prophet Rev 13
- Father of the lie Jn 8:44; 2 Thess 2:11
- Lawless One 2 Thess 2:8
- Man of Sin 2 Thess 2:3
- One come in his own name Jn 5:43
- Prince of Darkness 1 Thess 5
- Son of Perdition 2 Thess 2:3
- Star Rev 8:10; 9:1
- Unclean Spirit Mt 12:43
- Vine of the earth Rev 14:18

The "70 Weeks" of Daniel (see Sessions 11 & 12)

The Scope 9:24
The 69 Weeks 9:25
(The Interval) 9:26
The 70th Week 9:27

The Interval

*And after threescore and two weeks shall Messiah be cut off, but not for himself: and the **people of the prince that shall come** shall destroy the city and the sanctuary; and the end thereof shall be with a flood, and unto the end of the war desolations are determined.*

Daniel 9:26

*These great beasts, which are four, are four kings, which shall arise out of the earth. But the saints of the most High shall take the kingdom, and possess the kingdom forever, even for ever and ever. Then I would know the truth of the fourth beast, which was diverse from all the others, exceeding dreadful, whose teeth were of iron, and his nails of brass; which devoured, brake in pieces, and stamped the residue with his feet; And of the **ten** horns that were in his head, and of **the other** which came up, and before whom three fell; even of that horn that had eyes, and a mouth that spake very great things, whose look was more stout than his fellows. I beheld, and the same horn made war with the saints, and **prevailed against them; Until the Ancient of days came, and judgment was given to the saints of the most High; and the time came that the saints possessed the kingdom.***

Daniel 7:17-22

10 + 1 = 11th horn.

*Thus he said, The fourth beast shall be the fourth kingdom upon earth, which shall be diverse from all kingdoms, and shall devour the whole earth, and shall tread it down, and break it in pieces. And the ten horns out of this kingdom are ten kings that shall arise: and **another** shall rise after them; and he shall be diverse from the first, and he shall subdue three kings. And he shall speak great words against the most High, and shall wear out the saints of the most High, and think to change times and laws: and they shall be given into his hand until a time and times and the dividing of time.*

Daniel 7:23-25

The 11th horn. $1 + 2 + 1/2 = 3 \frac{1}{2}$ years; 42 months; 1260 days.

But the judgment shall sit, and they shall take away his dominion, to consume and to destroy it unto the end. And the kingdom and dominion, and the greatness of the kingdom under the whole heaven, shall be given to the people of the saints of the most High, whose kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and all dominions shall serve and obey him. Hitherto is the end of the matter. As for me Daniel, my cogitations much troubled me, and my countenance changed in me: but I kept the matter in my heart.

Daniel 7:26-28

After Alexander's Death

Four Generals divide the empire:

Macedonia and Greece: Cassander

Asia Minor and Thrace: Lysimachus

Syria and Babylon: Seleucus

Egypt, Arabia, Israel: Ptolemy (Daniel 11:5-35)

And in the latter time of their kingdom, when the transgressors are come to the full, a king of fierce countenance, and understanding dark sentences, shall stand up. And his power shall be mighty, but not by his own power: and he shall destroy wonderfully, and shall prosper, and practise, and shall destroy the mighty and the holy people. And through his policy also he shall cause craft to prosper in his hand; and he shall magnify himself in his heart,

and by peace shall destroy many: he shall also stand up against the Prince of princes; but he shall be broken without hand.

Daniel 8:23-25

And the king shall do according to his will; and he shall exalt himself, and magnify himself above every god, and shall speak marvellous things against the God of gods, and shall prosper till the indignation be accomplished: for that that is determined shall be done. Neither shall he regard the God of his fathers, nor the desire of women, nor regard any god: for he shall magnify himself above all. But in his estate shall he honour the God of forces: and a god whom his fathers knew not shall he honour with gold, and silver, and with precious stones, and pleasant things. Thus shall he do in the most strong holds with a strange god, whom he shall acknowledge and increase with glory: and he shall cause them to rule over many, and shall divide the land for gain.

And at the time of the end shall the king of the south push at him: and the king of the north shall come against him like a whirlwind, with chariots, and with horsemen, and with many ships; and he shall enter into the countries, and shall overflow and pass over.

He shall enter also into the glorious land, and many countries shall be overthrown: but these shall escape out of his hand, even Edom, and Moab, and the chief of the children of Ammon. He shall stretch forth his hand also upon the countries: and the land of Egypt shall not escape. But he shall have power over the treasures of gold and of silver, and over all the precious things of Egypt: and the Libyans and the Ethiopians shall be at his steps. But tidings out of the east and out of the north shall trouble him: therefore he shall go forth with great fury to destroy, and utterly to make away many. And he shall plant the tabernacles of his palace between the seas in the glorious holy mountain; yet he shall come to his end, and none shall help him.

Daniel 11:36-45 Ptolemies vs. Seleucids

“Kings of the South” “Kings of the North”

Daniel Chapter 11

5 Ptolemy I Soter

(323-285 BC)

6 Ptolemy II Philadelphus

(285-246)

7-8 Ptolemy III Euergetes

(246-221)

11-12 Ptolemy IV Philopater

(221-204)

17 Ptolemy V Epiphanes

(204-181)

25 Ptolemy VI Philometer

(181-145)

5 Seleucus I Nicator

(312-281)

Antiochus I Soter

(281-262)

7-9 Seleucus II Callinicus

(246-227)

6 Antiochus II Theos

(262-246)

10 Seleucus III Soter

(227-223)

10-19 Antiochus III the Great

(223-187)

20 Seleucus IV Philopater

(187-176)

21-35 Antiochus IV Epiphanes

(175-163)

Satan's Seven Super-Kingdoms

- Egypt
- Assyria
- Babylon
- Persia
- Greece
- Rome
- Rome II

10 Horns

And there appeared another wonder in heaven;
and behold a great red dragon,
having seven heads and ten horns,
and seven crowns upon his heads.

Revelation 12:3

And there are seven kings:
five are fallen, and one is,
and the other is not yet come;
and when he cometh,
he must continue a short space.

Revelation 17:10

And the beast that was, and is not,
even he is the eighth,
and is of the seven, and goeth into perdition

Revelation 17:11

The 11th Horn

Daniel 7:8, 20-26; 8:9-14

Daniel's 4 + 1

The Assyrian

And this man shall be the peace, when the Assyrian shall come into our land: and when he shall tread in our palaces, then shall we raise against him seven shepherds, and eight principal men. And they shall waste the land of Assyria with the sword, and the land of Nimrod in the entrances thereof: thus shall he deliver us from the Assyrian, when he cometh into our land, and when he treadeth within our borders.

Micah 5:5-6

Cf. Isa 10:5, 12, 24; [Note: the Pharaoh of the Exodus: Isa 52:4]

The Coming World Leader

- “Big Mouth” (6X!): Dan 7:8,11,20; 11:36; Ps 52; 2 Thessalonians 2:4.
- The Leader will be the Son of Satan: Gen 3:15; Isa 27:1; Ezekiel 28:12-19; Rev 13.
- He will be an intellectual genius: Dan 7:20; 8:23; Ezekiel 28:3.
- He will be an oratorical Genius: Dan 7:20; Rev 13:2.
- He will be a political genius: Dan 11:21.
- He will be a commercial genius: Dan 8:25; Rev 13:17; Ps 52:7; Dan 11:38, 43; Ezekiel 28:4,5
- He will be a military genius: Dan 8:24; Rev 6:2; Rev 13:4; Isa 14:16.
- He will be a governmental genius: Rev 13:1, 2; 17:17.
- He will be a religious genius: 2 Thessalonians 2:4 (“Allah?”); Rev 13:3,14,15.
- See also: Ps 10, 52, 55; Isa 10,11,13,14; Jeremiah 49-51; Zechariah 5; Rev 18

The Two Beasts of Revelation 13

• Beast out of the Sea:

- 7 Heads, 10 Horns.
- Heads with the name of blasphemy.
- One of heads: deadly wound healed.
- Powered by the Dragon for 42 months.
- Overcomes the Saints.
- Earth-Dwellers worship.

- All those not written in the Book of Life.

• Beast out of the Earth (“False Prophet”):

- Two horns like Lamb.
- Speaks as the Dragon.
- Causes Earth to worship the 1st Beast.
- Deceives the Earth with miracles.
- Forces worship of an image of 1st Beast.
- All receive mark in right hands or foreheads.
- No man may buy or sell without the name or number of the 1st Beast: 666.

Revelation 13:1-18 John Brown:

I. INTRODUCTION

A. Last week we studied the war that will take place in Heaven as Michael the Archangel heads up an angelic army against "the prince of the power of the air" (*Eph. 2:2*) and his demons.

1. Michael wins of course, and Satan is kicked out of the heavenlies and confined to the earth.

2. That's good news for those in heaven, but Satan pulls out all the stops on earth knowing "that he has a short time." *12:12*

3. This morning's study is a result of Satan's "pulling all the stops".

a) Satan empowers 2 great warriors in this battle and one's mission is to cause the other to be worshiped as god!

b) They are referred to as, "beasts" here in chapter 13.

c) But later, in chapters 16, 19, and 20 the latter beast is referenced as "the false prophet."

d) So we have before us "the beastly trinity" of the "dragon (which is Satan *12:9*, the "beast", and the "false prophet"!

(1) As we study them and their "ministries", you will see their "copycat" resemblance to the Holy Trinity of God!

(a) Satan has always wanted to be worshiped as god!

(b) The "beast" is a "logos" of Satan! He is a physical representative of his!

(c) And lastly, the "false prophet" glorifies the "beast".

II. TEXT

A. **Revelation 13:1-2** Then 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. (NKJV)

1. The two witnesses have already been slain by the beast!

2. Daniel calls him "the prince that shall come" (*Dan 9:26*).

3. Isaiah calls him "the wicked!" (*Isaiah 11:4*)

4. Christ called him "the abomination of desolation" (*Matt 24:16*)

5. Paul labeled him as "the man of sin, the son of perdition" in *2 Thes. 2:3*

6. Just prior to this, John had been watching the "woman" and the "dragon" when all of a sudden, he is standing on a seashore observing a beast rising out of the sea similar in appearance to the dragon!

a) But it is not the dragon! *Chapter 12:9* told us that the dragon was Satan himself.

b) This beast "rising up out of the sea" is symbolic! It represents a man, as *verse 8* tells us the people of earth will physically worship him!

c) He get his power from the dragon *Rev. 13:2*.

7. Usually the sea referred to in scripture is the Mediterranean.

a) Therefore it is commonly assumed that this beast-man will come from one of the lands surrounding this great sea.

b) The 7 heads and 10 horns represent power and authority and in this case: a league of nations and leaders that are ultimately under the power of Satan!

(1) Daniel saw the same vision and interpreted the lion as the Babylonian empire, the bear as the Medo-Persian empire, and the leopard as the Grecian empire!

(a) All of which were yet future, but history has proven this prophecy correct!

(b) All 3 of these "empires" have ruled or dominated God's people in some way!

(c) Here John sees them in reverse order since he is "looking back" over history.

c) Please keep in mind that out of this "league" will rise a very charismatic leader. This man is the beast. And he is head of this league!

B. *Revelation 13:3-4* 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. 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?" (NKJV)

1. Scripture doesn't tell us from which nation this "head" will be!

2. We do know however that his nation will best suit the nature and purposes of the dragon which empowers him!

a) It is interesting to note that Saddam Hussein has spent millions of dollars rebuilding Babylon!

b) Babylon in modern Iraq is also the geographical "center" of all the world's land masses!

(1) Wherever and whichever this nation is, it will also become the "center" of worship.

(2) All the nations as well as their respective religions will unite as they see this "pseudo" death and resurrection of the beast!

(3) With all the flying angels and demons and the cosmic disturbances, no one will any longer doubt the existence of God!

(4) It is just that many will choose Satan as god since he appears to be the most powerful!

(a) After all, he had power to overcome God's two witnesses, and now seemingly death!!

C. Revelation 13:5-6 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. (NKJV)

1. During this last 3 1/3 years, the beast will curse and defame the Lord, His holiness, His love, His law, His grace, and His people!!

a) He has but a short time and can no longer stand before the Lord and accuse the brethren, so he turns it loose on those remaining on the earth.

b) No doubt, to prevent any who might be thinking of giving their heart to the Lord!

D. Revelation 13:7-10 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. 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. (NKJV)

1. These are not the resurrected saints, but those who will come to know the Lord during the tribulation!

a) *Romans 8:29-30* For whom He foreknew, He also predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the firstborn among many brethren. 30 Moreover whom He predestined, these He also called; whom He called, these He also justified; and whom He justified, these He also glorified. (NKJV)

b) The Lord knows everyone who will accept Him, and their names are written in the book of life! These saints from the tribulation will not bow, at the cost of their own lives (he "overcame them")!

c) All the rest of the earth dwellers will bow and worship the beast.

d) John begs, "Listen with your heart! (he who has ears)"

(1) If any man has had a difficult time making a decision up until now, the beast is about to force it!

(2) John reassures the saints in *verse 10* that those responsible for the death of the saints will likewise be put to death! You see, the dispensation of grace has ended!

DAVID GUZIK: THE TWO BEASTS

A. The beast rising from the sea.

1. (*Rev 13:1*) John's vision of a beast rising from the sea.

Then 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.

a. **Then I stood on the sand of the sea:** In *Revelation 12*, John's vision mainly had *heaven* in view. Now the scene of his vision shifted to the earth, and in his vision he **stood on the sand of the sea**.

i. Many people today love **the sea**, but as a whole the Jewish people in Biblical times regarded the sea as a wild, untamed, frightening place. While ancient Israel under Solomon had a navy, Hiram the King of Tyre supplied the sailors (*1 Kings 9:26-27*).

ii. Because ancient Israel was wary of **the sea**, it was a figure of evil and chaos that seemed to resist God, though the resistance was unsuccessful:

For God is my King from of old, working salvation in the midst of the earth. You divided the sea by Your strength; You broke the heads of the sea serpents in the waters. (Psalm 74:12-13)

O Lord God of hosts, who is mighty like You, O Lord? Your faithfulness also surrounds You. You rule the raging of the sea; when its waves rise, You still them. (Psalm 89:8-9)

But the wicked are like the troubled sea, when it cannot rest, whose waters cast up mire and dirt. (Isaiah 57:20)

b. **And I saw a beast rising up out of the sea:** From the place identified with evil and chaos and resisting God, a **beast** comes forth. The ancient Greek word translated **beast** here has the idea of a wild, dangerous animal. Because John calls him a **beast** and not a *dragon* (as in [Revelation 12:3](#)), this creature represents someone distinct from Satan who was represented by the dragon ([Revelation 12:9](#)).

c. **Having seven heads and ten horns:** Though this **beast** is distinct from the dragon of [Revelation 12](#), he is still closely identified with him. He is not the dragon, but he is *like* him, because the dragon also had **seven heads and ten horns** ([Revelation 11:3](#)).

i. Any creature with **seven heads** would be hard to kill, because if you wounded one head, six still remained. In Biblical imagery **horns** express strength and power. A bull with two horns is a powerful creature, but a **beast** with **ten horns** has that much more power – just like the dragon of [Revelation 12:3](#).

ii. This likeness to Satan is just one of the things that identifies this **beast** with the one popularly known as the *Antichrist*. The word *Antichrist* only appears in the Bible five times in four verses ([1 John 2:18](#), [2:22](#), [4:3](#), and [2 John 7](#)). [1 John 2:18](#) is a good example: *Little children, it is the last hour; and as you have heard that the Antichrist is coming*. With this, John referred to an individual who has captured the imagination of many people, some who don't even know the Bible. But many are ignorant about this person called *the Antichrist*, except what they have learned from movies like *The Omen*.

iii. We can begin by understanding what the title *Antichrist* means. The prefix *anti* may mean “the opposite of” or “instead of.” The Antichrist is the “opposite Jesus”; he is the “instead of” Jesus. Most people have focused on the idea of the “opposite Jesus.” This has made them think that the Antichrist will appear as a supremely evil person, that as much as Jesus went around doing good, he will go around doing bad. As much as Jesus' character and personality was beautiful and attractive, the Antichrist's character and personality will be ugly and repulsive. As much as Jesus spoke only truth, the Antichrist will speak only lies. This emphasizes the idea of the “opposite Jesus” too much. The Antichrist will instead be more of an “instead of Jesus.” He will look wonderful, be charming and successful. He will be the ultimate winner, and appear as an angel of light. In this sense the Antichrist will be a satanic messiah, *instead of* the true Messiah Jesus Christ.

iv. In [1 John 2:18](#), John also spoke of *the Antichrist and many antichrists*. There is a “spirit” of antichrist, and this “spirit” of antichrist will one day find its ultimate fulfillment in *the Antichrist*, who will lead humanity in an end-times rebellion against God. In other words, though the world still waits to see the ultimate revelation of the Antichrist, there are little “previews” of this man and his mission to come. These are the *antichrists* with a little “a.”

v. Though we commonly call this coming world leader the Antichrist, the Bible gives him many names or titles. He is known as:

- The *little horn* of [Daniel 7:8](#)
- The *king of fierce countenance* of [Daniel 8:23](#)
- *The Prince that shall come* of [Daniel 9:26](#)
- The *willful king* of [Daniel 11:36-45](#)
- The one who comes *in his own name* of [John 5:43](#), whom Israel will receive as a messiah
- *The son of perdition, the man of sin, the lawless one* of [2 Thessalonians 2:3](#)

d. **And on his horns ten crowns:** This is something *different* about the **beast** compared to the dragon of [Revelation 12:3](#), who had *seven diadems on his heads*. The seven crowns of the dragon expressed his strength and power, because seven is a number associated with strength and completeness. The **ten crowns** of the **beast** express his rule over a group of ten nations.

i. Most commentators think that the **ten horns** are distributed among the seven heads, but David Hocking sees all **ten horns** upon one of the heads. The figure of **ten horns** also associates this **beast** with the beast of [Daniel 7:7](#), which represent the final world empire of the Antichrist, which the Messiah will ultimately conquer: *After this I saw in the night visions, and behold, a fourth beast, dreadful and terrible, exceedingly strong. It had huge iron teeth; it was devouring, breaking in pieces, and trampling the residue with its feet. It was different from all the beasts that were before it, and it had ten horns.* ([Daniel 7:7](#))

ii. In Daniel's vision, the *ten horns* specifically represented *ten kingdoms* that this final world dictator has authority over ([Daniel 7:24](#)). In John's vision the **ten crowns** on the **ten horns** emphasize this idea.

iii. The visions of [Daniel 7](#) and [Daniel 2](#) also connect the governments represented by the **ten crowns** with the ancient Roman Empire. In those visions, Daniel saw three successive world empires, each succeeded by a fourth – which in the context of the visions is plainly the Roman Empire. In the days of that fourth empire the Messiah will come, destroy all earthly rule and reign over the earth. Since we do not see the reign of Jesus on earth in the way Daniel prophesied, we can see that the Roman Empire will “resume” in some way, expressed by this collection of **ten crowns**.

e. **And on his heads a blasphemous name:** The seven heads of the **beast** each advertise blasphemy against God. This speaks of more than the beast's message; it speaks of his character. He is a blasphemer, who speaks against God (as in [Daniel 7:25](#)).

2. ([Rev 13:2](#)) The description of the beast of the sea again connects it to images from [Daniel 7](#).

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.

a. **Like a leopard... a bear... a lion:** In this vision, God used images from Daniel's vision of [Daniel 7](#) to communicate the identity and nature of this **beast** to John. [Daniel 7](#) used four animals (*beasts*) to describe the course of human government from Daniel's time until the ultimate reign of Jesus on this earth.

i. The first three animals are a **lion** (in Daniel, a picture of the Babylonian Empire), a **bear** (a picture of Medo-Persian Empire), and a **leopard** (a picture of the Greek Empire). The fourth animal was a dreadful, indescribable beast which shared the most terrifying characteristics of the previous beasts, yet represents the final world empire under the leadership of a Satanic dictator ([Daniel 7:7-8](#)).

ii. John presents this **beast** as the extension of the fourth beast of [Daniel 7](#), connecting his empire with the characteristics of the great empires of the past. This final world empire will have the catlike vigilance of a **leopard**, the slow and crushing power of a **bear**, and the authority and ferociousness of a **lion**.

iii. Since the beasts of [Daniel 7](#) represented empires more than specific men, some have thought that the **beast** of [Revelation 13](#) is not a person, but a government or a cultural system. Many believe the beast is a broad picture of totalitarian governments, especially the totalitarian states of the 20th century. For example, Mounce writes: "The beast has always been, and will always be, in a final intensified manifestation, the deification of secular authority" (Mounce). But others see the **beast** as a person, specifically the Antichrist – the final Satanic dictator who leads the world in rebellion against God. Some (like David Hocking) combine the approaches and say that the beast is a modern, world totalitarian government, *but* the one head that has ten horns is specifically the Antichrist – the leader of this beast of a final satanic dictatorship. But with any empire, especially brief empires, the government is almost totally identified with the ruler. When we think of Germany in the 1930s and 1940s, the figures of Adolph Hitler as an individual and Nazi Germany as a state are virtually the same.

b. **Now the beast which I saw:** All the indications in [Revelation 13](#) are that the **beast** is a man, though he is closely identified with his world-dominating government.

i. “The Beast is worshipped as a god; but people never worship an empire as such; neither do they make a succession of emperors into an object of religious devotion. The paying of divine homage to kings has been a common thing in the world’s history, but it has always been rendered to individuals.” (Seiss)

ii. An image is set up of the beast, and the whole world is commanded to worship it. This makes far more sense if the **beast** is a man more than an empire or a government. Through history, men have often bowed down to an image of a political ruler.

iii. “This Beast also has a proper name – a name expressive of a particular number, and that number ‘a number of *a man*,’ which cannot be conceived except on the idea of an individual person.” (Seiss)

iv. “This beast is finally damned. He goes to perdition, into the lake of fire, where he continues to exist and suffer, after passing from this earthly scene ([Revelation 17:11](#); [20:10](#)), which cannot be true of systems of government.” (Seiss)

v. The antichrist is also called *the son of perdition* ([2 Thessalonians 2:3](#)), as was Judas ([John 17:12](#)). Judas was a man, not a system or a government, so it follows that the antichrist will also be a man.

vi. With all this in mind, we agree with Seiss: “We would therefore greatly err from the Scriptures, as well as from the unanimous conviction and teaching of the early Church, were we to fail to recognize this Beast as *a real person*, though one in whom the political power of the world is finally concentrated and represented.”

c. **The dragon gave him his power, his throne, and great authority:** This world leader is really empowered and supported by Satan. Through this man, Satan will express his own desire and authority. In this, the **beast** takes the offer that Jesus refused ([Matthew 4:8-10](#)).

i. The **beast** is not an ordinary man. He is called *the beast that ascends out of the bottomless pit* ([Revelation 11:7](#), [17:8](#)), and ordinary men do not come from there. “One who hails from that place must either be a dead man brought up again from the dead, or some evil spirit which takes possession of a living man... In either case, the Beast, as a person, is an extraordinary and supernatural being.” (Seiss)

ii. It may be that Satan himself takes possession of this man, and this is what makes him exceptional. This was the case with Judas, who was possessed by Satan ([John 13:27](#)).

3. (Rev 13:3) The beast and his wound.

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.

a. **One of his heads as if it had been mortally wounded:** This is a *head* wound, a *mortal* wound, not a superficial injury. Perhaps it is the result of God's judgment against the **beast**.

b. **And his deadly wound was healed:** The recovery of the beast increases his fame and authority (**all the world marveled and followed the beast**). Twice later (Revelation 13:12 and 13:14) this recovery is mentioned in connection to the world's worship and devotion to the beast.

i. Some who see the beast not as a man but as a government see this as the revival of the Roman Empire, fulfilling Daniel 7. In this perspective, the Roman Empire has been *dead* but will again be *revived*, and the world will marvel. Yet the most natural way to understand John's words in Revelation 13 make us believe that he speaks of a man who will be **mortally wounded** and then **healed**. The man will lead a revived Roman Empire, and his personality will dominate it – yet he and the empire are not exactly the same.

c. **Wounded... healed:** This is truly an *Antichrist*, who even imitates Jesus in His death and resurrection. The world will believe this, and it will add tremendously to his fame and power.

4. (Rev 13:4) The authority and popularity of the beast.

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?"

a. **So they worshiped the dragon who gave authority to the beast:** As people worship this beast and bow down before his government, it may be that they do not know they are bowing down to Satan himself; but it is worship of Satan none the less. They clearly worship both the **beast** and the **dragon**, but their worship of the dragon may be unknowing.

i. Though Satan worship becomes more and more popular each year, it is still only a tiny fraction of people who openly worship Satan. But this is because more people expect Satan to appear with ugliness and horror. This is wrong, *for Satan himself transforms himself into an angel of light. Therefore it is no great thing if his ministers also transform themselves into ministers of righteousness, whose end will be according to their works.* (2 Corinthians 11:14-15)

b. **Who is like the beast? Who is able to make war with him?** The world will be amazed at the power of the beast, and will believe he is so mighty that he cannot be conquered. For a time, the

beast will look like a tremendous *winner*. When he blasphemes Jesus and persecutes God's people, they will appear to be complete losers – for a short time.

i. They worship the beast, and the dragon behind the beast, simply because of the beast's might. "Worship of the devil and the devil's agent is justified purely on the ground of brute force."
(Robertson)

5. (Rev 13:5-6) The beast's blasphemies.

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

a. **Speaking great things and blasphemies:** "Blasphemer" may be a more accurate title than "Antichrist" for this end-times dictator. This beast is a man who speaks against God and everything God stands for (**His name, His tabernacle, and those who dwell in heaven**).

i. Some Roman Emperors blasphemed God this way; but they did not fulfill these prophecies, even if they did prefigure their fulfillment.

b. **And he was given authority to continue for forty-two months:** The beast continues without restraint by God for a period of **forty-two months** – the familiar three and one-half years. The duration of the period shows that the beast has full reign for the first half of the final seven years, and that during the whole time he is still under God's authority.

c. Why does the beast **blaspheme... those who dwell in heaven**? This means he speaks against those who were taken in the rapture, and are therefore out of his reach.

6. (Rev 13:7-8) The beast makes war against the saints.

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. 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.

a. **It was granted to him to make war with the saints:** Revelation 12 described the broad phenomenon of Satanic persecution during the tribulation period. Here, the main instrument of that persecution is revealed: the government of the beast will persecute and kill all those who do not bow in worship to the beast.

b. **To overcome them: Overcome** does not mean that the beast can overcome the faith of the saints, but that he can destroy their physical lives, and by all appearances defeat the cause of God's people on this earth.

i. Who are these **saints** who are **overcome** by the beast? Various views of the timing of the rapture will determine who these persecuted ones are. Those who believe in a pre-tribulation rapture believe that these saints are God's people who come to Christ after the church has been raptured. Those who believe in a post-tribulation rapture believe that these saints are God's people who are on the earth before the final rapture, including what we think of today as the "church."

ii. Jesus said of the church, that *the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it* ([Matthew 16:18](#)). If this group of saints (a term not exclusively applied to the New Testament church) is overcome by Satan, perhaps they are not the same New Testament *church* that Jesus spoke of.

c. **All who dwell on the earth will worship him:** This final world dictator will demand and receive worship from the whole **earth**. But those who **worship him** pay the price: they are **whose names have not been written in the Book of Life**.

i. *How* will **all who dwell on the earth... worship him**? It will probably be after the pattern of the worship demanded by the Roman Emperors in the days of the early church. There were times in the early church when all residents in the empire were required to burn a pinch of incense before a statue of Caesar and say, *Caesar is Lord*. Christians refused to do this and were persecuted because of it. The Romans saw it as an act of *political* allegiance, but the Christians rightly saw it as an act of religious worship. After the great and terrible totalitarian rulers of the 20th Century (Lenin, Stalin, Hitler, Mao), it isn't hard to imagine a dominating world leader demanding such a declaration of allegiance, tantamount to worship.

ii. The **Book of Life** contains the names of all God's redeemed ([Revelation 20:15](#)). The idea is that worshipping the beast and having your name in the **Book of Life** are mutually exclusive.

d. **The Lamb slain from the foundation of the world:** This deeply meaningful title for Jesus reminds us that God's plan of redemption was set in place before He even created the beings who would be redeemed. God wasn't "surprised" by the fall of Adam or any other evidence of the fallen nature of man. God isn't making it up as He goes along. It is all going according to plan.

- God the Son had a relationship of love and fellowship with God the Father *before the foundation of the world* ([John 17:24](#))
- The work of Jesus was ordained *before the foundation of the world* ([1 Peter 1:20](#))
- God chose His redeemed *before the foundation of the world* ([Ephesians 1:4](#))
- Names are written in the Book of Life *before the foundation of the world* ([Revelation 17:8](#))

· The kingdom of heaven was prepared for the redeemed *before the foundation of the world* (Matthew 25:34)

7. (Rev 13:9-10) A warning to all.

If anyone has an ear, let him hear. 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.

a. **He who has an ear, let him hear:** This introduces a solemn word of warning, meant to capture the attention of all who hear.

b. **He who leads into captivity shall go into captivity:** This means that the functionaries of the beast are not without guilt. Though these things are prophesied and part of God's predetermined plan, it does not lessen in the slightest way man's personal responsibility. If you work for the beast and lead others **into captivity**, you certainly **shall go into captivity** yourself. God will measure unto you what you have measured to others.

i. This may have a secondary or additional meaning: there is no hope in fighting against the Antichrist. The only way of victory is steadfast faith and endurance in Jesus.

c. **Here is the patience and the faith of the saints:** Though they are viciously attacked by the Antichrist and his followers, the **saints** of God must keep steadfast **faith** in the ultimate justice of God. He will reward their persecutors with persecution of His own.

LGBTQIA+: From The Fringes To Cultural Dominance In A Single Generation

BY JONATHON VAN MAREN/BRIDGEHEAD.CA APRIL 08, 2021

In a time where there are almost no taboos left to break and the ubiquity of violent porn has virtually eliminated our collective capacity to experience shock, it is difficult for artists to attract attention as they once did.

With the meteoric rise of the rainbow movement, "coming out" as something or other has become a compelling career move. If you need a shtick, announcing that you are something other than straight is sure to rake in accolades from every corner.

Thus, pop singer Sam Smith announced that he was "non-binary" (Douglas Murray wondered what the difference between that and shouting "Look at me!" was).

Miley Cyrus, the fresh-faced Hannah-Montana-turned-punk-chick, was sure to let the tabloids know that her marriage to Liam Hemsworth didn't mean she wasn't pansexual, gender-fluid, and queer.

"We're redefining, to be f---ing frank, what it looks like for someone that's a queer person like myself to be in a hetero relationship. A big part of my pride and my identity is being a queer person," she told Vanity Fair.

Teen YouTube star Jojo Siwa also climbed aboard the overloaded bandwagon, informing her fans that she now identifies as LGBT.

Not that she's gay or anything -- most of the celebrities coming out these days are identifying as one of the other ambiguous letters, which allow them to be referred to as "courageous" and "bold" without actually having to do anything that used to make "coming out" difficult.

They're basically straight, but since that's so passé these days, they're queer or bi or non-binary or gender-fluid -- lots of great options for anyone seeking to break free of heteronormativity and into the headlines.

The latest example is Demi Lovato, who recently featured in a documentary series titled *Dancing With the Devil* and released a new album. Lovato is also a former Disney star and, like Cyrus, she has also announced that she is "pansexual."

On March 30, she went on Joe Rogan's podcast and, while talking about the end of her recent engagement (to Max Ehrich), she noted that she was now up for anything. "I'm so fluid now -- and a part of the reason why I am so fluid is because I was super closeted off," she said, affirming that "pansexual" described her.

"I heard someone call the LGBTQIA+ community the 'alphabet mafia,' and I was like, 'That's it. That's what I'm going with. I'm part of the alphabet mafia and proud.'"

Of course, every coming out story has to have a little Christian-bashing, so she explained that she "felt a lot of shame because growing up in Texas as a Christian, that's very frowned upon. Any attraction I had to a female at a young age, I shut it down before I even let myself process what I was feeling."

She also told *Glamour* that she was really coming into her new identity, whatever that ends up being.

"When I started getting older, I started realizing how queer I really am. This past year I was engaged to a man, and when it didn't work, I was like, this is a huge sign ... felt this sense of relief that I could live my truth."

Demi Lovato is only the latest. Data increasingly tell us that identifying as anything but straight is now trendy, especially with the entertainment industry's commitment to telling LGBT stories and lionizing anyone who decides to join the alphabet mafia.

For a celebrity, identifying as LGBT is all gain, no cost -- you don't even have to break up with your opposite sex partner, you just have to be with them "queerly," which can mean whatever you want.

From the fringes to cultural dominance in a single generation. Alphabet mafia, indeed.

Originally published at [The Bridgehead](#) - reposted with permission.

80,000 More Retail Stores To Close As COVID Shifts Spending To Online

BY TYLER DURDEN/ACTIVIST POST | APRIL 08, 2021

The retail apocalypse has been well documented for readers over the years as tens of thousands of brick and mortar stores nationwide have shuttered their doors.

The problem today is that millions of jobs lost during the pandemic are never coming back – in a consumer-based economy this sets up for even more store closures.

UBS analyst Michael Lasser told clients this week that a whopping 80,000 retail stores are estimated to close in the next five years as the virus pandemic has deeply scarred the economy and resulted in a permanent shift in how consumers shop, that is, online.

“An enduring legacy of the pandemic is that online penetration rose sharply,” wrote Lasser.

“We expect that it will continue to increase, which will drive further rationalization of retail stores, especially as some of the unique support measures from the government subside,” he said.

UBS found at the end of 2020, there were 115,000 shopping malls, compared with 112,000 in 2010 and 90,000 in 2000.

Lasser said that equates to approximately 59 square feet of shopping center space per U.S. household, less than 62 square feet in 2010. That number is expected to plunge by 2026 as online shopping dominates.

UBS estimates 9% of all retail stores will shutter operations by 2026, or about 80,000 retail stores.

Lasser assumes during this period that e-commerce sales will jump to 27% of total retail sales by then, up from 18% today.

UBS said many retail stores have been on life support following cheap government loans and a supercharged consumer via stimulus checks. The short-term artificial boost will be short-lived, which will lead to even more store closures.

Many of the closures will be retailers who sell clothing and accessories. UBS believes 21,000 closures from this industry will be by 2026. Office supplies and sporting goods businesses are other retailers that will be hit hard.

The good news is that auto parts, home improvement, and grocery retailing will be less susceptible to the retail apocalypse.

However, there is more bad news. The labor market recovery is not robust. The economy is still short 8 million jobs and 19 million people are collecting some form of unemployment insurance.

This is a large swath of the population who have fallen into financial hardship and are increasingly unlikely to return to their jobs anytime soon.

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Godless America: Anticipating The Antichrist

BY JAN MARKELL/OLIVE TREE MINISTRIES APRIL 08, 2021

Oh, how America is preparing for the Antichrist with a Godless mindset.

A recent article in the Los Angeles Times and Yahoo News is headlined, "Why America's Record Godlessness is Good News for the Nation."

In part it reads, "The secularization of U.S. society--the waning of religious faith, practice and affiliation--is continuing at a dramatic and historically unprecedented pace. While many may consider such a development as a cause for concern, such a worry is not warranted. This increasing godlessness in America is actually a good thing, to be welcomed and embraced."

Are you serious?

As recently as 1976, nearly 40% of Americans said they believed that the Bible was the actual word of God--to be taken literally. Today, only about a quarter of Americans believe that. More believe the Bible is a collection of fables, history and tales written by men.

Rep. Jerry Nadler (D-NY) recently proclaimed that God's will was of no concern to this Congress. First the liberals kicked God out of the Pledge of Allegiance and then out of their Democrat National Convention in 2012. Until recently, they did not make an effort to force the rest of the nation to also abandon God.

The Consequences

Secularization has consequences. Check out nations that have experimented with it: Japan, Scandanavia, Australia, the U.K. and parts of Eastern Europe. How is society functioning in Godless China and Russia? Once God is gone, repression almost always follows.

The article heralding America's new Godlessness said that now society can embrace abortion, socialized medicine, euthanasia, and gun control.

It reads, "The organic secularization we are experiencing in the United States is a progressive force for good, one that is associated with improved human rights, more protections for planet Earth, and an increased socio-cultural propensity to make this life as fair and just as we can--in the here and now--rather than in a heavenly reward that fewer and fewer of us believe in."

Does this not foreshadow the words of Luke 18:8: When Christ returns, will He find any of faith??

Government Becomes God

For one hundred years, there has been an effort to make government god. Starting in 2020, an element was added that furthered that agenda--fear. Fear of a pandemic. It became the perfect storm.

Author and blogger Jonathan Brentner writes, "The combination of fear and the great deception of our time, have made vast numbers of people willing to submit to the government, which they now regard as the protector of their health.

As a result, they have willingly given up many of their rights and freedoms for the sake of remaining healthy, a trend sure to continue.

"The New World Order (AKA the beast) cannot exercise its dominion over people apart from their willingness to submit to dictates of a government they trust for their well-being and health. People wear masks without questioning their effectiveness.

"And, very few pastors stand up against the restriction regarding the freedom of religion imposed on them by socialist governors.

"In order for the elite to achieve their ultimate goal of a one-world government, they must convince people of the need for more government control of their lives. This explains their devotion to the contrived climate emergency and why they will not let go of the increased control over our lives that they have achieved through the China virus."

Given Over

Four of the most terrifying words in the Bible are "God gave them over." (Romans 1:24-28) Because man rejected God, He gave them over to foolish idolatry. We find the same principle in 2 Thessalonians 2, but this time in terms of delusional beliefs: Those who reject God's truth will end up following the Antichrist. They will run pell-mell into his arms.

The stage is being set.

Just 50-100 years ago, our churches were filled on Sundays. Even though the Mainline Protestants were in decline, still faithful Presbyterians, Lutherans and Methodists joyfully sang hymns. The evangelical church was exploding in reaction to the liberalism that had invaded the church.

The thought of a prominent U.S. Congressman stating that our government was not concerned with God's will was unthinkable!

But 50-100 years ago we were not so late in the game! Few were even thinking about the Antichrist, much less knowingly or unknowingly heralding his coming. Now he is on the horizon. So are the Four Horsemen.

Evil is on its way. So is the return of the Lord in what is known as the Rapture of the Church. That's the good news in the midst of this sad story. He's coming soon whether the church today talks about this event or not. Nothing can stop it. It is imminent. Any minute.

Perhaps today.

While most people no longer believe that Jesus is coming back, researchers in the Middle East have discovered new evidence that proves the prophesied Rapture is not only real, but why it must soon come to pass. Discover more with the powerful new DVD "Before The Wrath". [Available from PNW here.](#)

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DARPA Unveils 'COVID Microchip,' Claims Not For Surveillance Purposes

WASHINGTON, DC – JULY 2: A model of COVID-19, known as coronavirus, is seen July 2, 2020 on Capitol Hill in Washington, DC. (Photo by Saul Loeb-Pool/Getty Images)

The Pentagon unveiled a coronavirus microchip that it claims can detect illness and prevent the spread of COVID-19.

“The tiny green thing in there, you put it underneath your skin and what that tells you is that there are chemical reactions going on inside the body. And that signal means you’re going to have symptoms tomorrow,” retired Col. Matt Hepburn, an army infectious disease physician said.

The implant was developed by the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency, or DARPA, which claimed the device can not be used for surveillance purposes.

However, the idea to microchip humans due to COVID-19 appears to prove so-called “conspiracy theorists” were right all along.

Hepburn compared the microchip to a check engine light.

“We can have that information in three to five minutes. As you truncate that time, as you diagnose and treat, what you do is you stop the infection in its tracks,” Hepburn explained.

DARPA claimed COVID microchipping would only be used in the military, and there’s no plans for a civilian use of the device.

Critics have said the Democrat Party could mandate such microchipping on a broader scale.

Chuck Smith: John said,

I stood upon the sand of the sea ([Rev 13:1](#)),

Probably the Mediterranean Sea.

and I saw a beast rise up out of the sea, having seven heads, ten horns, and upon his horns ten crowns, and upon his heads the name of blasphemy ([Rev 13:1](#)).

The sea represents, of course, the multitudes of people, the Mediterranean Sea, the multitudes of people that live around the Mediterranean Sea. And out of it he sees this hydro-headed beast with seven heads and ten horns. We are told in the book of Revelation that the seven heads are the seven mountains upon which the beast sits. The ten horns are ten kings.

Daniel, as he also describes the beast that he cannot really describe, non-descriptive type of a beast, it had ten horns. And again the Lord told Daniel that the ten horns were the ten kings that were going to give power to the beast.

So, there is going to arise upon the earth a ten-nation federation, ten kingdoms federating together. Daniel two and the dream of Nebuchadnezzar and the interpretation by Daniel, "and there shall arise," Daniel said, "the eleventh which shall destroy three speaking blasphemous things, he will take control, take power." So, the rise of the beast, the antichrist, the one who is going to rise to take over the control of the earth, speaking, as Paul said, blasphemous things against God. Daniel makes reference of his blasphemies. "He shall speak great words," he said, "against the most High and shall wear out the saints of the most High."

And the beast which I saw was like unto a leopard, and his feet were like a bear, and his mouth was the mouth of a lion: and the dragon [who of course is Satan] gave him his power, his throne, and great authority ([Rev 13:2](#)).

Now, where is Satan's throne? It is on this earth. We say the earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof, and all they that dwell therein. That is prophetic. The earth right now is under Satan's control. This is his place of dominion. He rules. Jesus came to redeem the world back to God. Satan took Him into a high mountain and showed Him all the kingdoms of the world and said, "All of these will I give unto you and the glory of them, if you will bow down, and worship me, for they are mine, and I can give them to whomever I will"([Luke 4:5-6](#)).

Now, the fact that they are still Satan's is demonstrated by the fact that the antichrist, which is yet future, receives from Him his authority, his power, and his throne. And so Satan is going to invest in a man, all of his power, and all of his authority. It will be Satan incarnate.

And I saw one of the heads as it were wounded to death; and his deadly wound was healed: and all the world wondered after the beast ([Rev 13:3](#)).

Now, we are told a little further down verse fourteen, that the false prophet comes and says to the people who dwell upon the earth that they should make an image to the beast which had the wound by a sword and did live. This man will be a world leader. There will be an assassination attempt, apparently successful, but he miraculously survives the deadly wounds. Though, according to Zechariah, it will probably leave him blinded in his right eye and without the use of his right arm. Yet the very fact that he survives this assassination attempt causes the world to marvel and it brings him immediately into a prominent position in the minds of so many people, because it is by a definite miracle that this man survives. "One of his heads were wounded to death, but the deadly wound was healed."

And they worshipped the dragon which gave power to the beast ([Rev 13:4](#)):

Satan worship. Oh, people wouldn't worship Satan. That is ridiculous. We used to think that, didn't we? Now, they have the Satanic Church and people are consciously, knowingly worshipping Satan. And here they worship the dragon through his incarnated person the antichrist.

and they say, Who is like unto the beast? who is able to make war with him? ([Rev 13:4](#))

He will have tremendous power, tremendous authority. He will subdue three probably of the most powerful kingdoms to take over the rule. He will put to death the two witnesses who have up to this point been invincible.

We remember last week, in chapter eleven, the two witnesses; whoever tried to hurt them, they would call fire down from heaven and consume them. And they had been invincible up to this point and the beast destroys them. He puts them to death. And so the world will marvel at this man's power and they will say, "who can make war with him?"

And there was given unto him a mouth speaking great things and blasphemies ([Rev 13:5](#));

Again this is mentioned by Daniel both in chapter seven and chapter eleven.

and power was given unto him to continue [for three and a half years] forty-two months. And he opened his mouth in blasphemy against God, to blaspheme his name, and his tabernacle [that is His dwelling place], and them that dwell in heaven ([Rev 13:5-6](#)).

Now, this man is a man of open blasphemy. Again, Paul makes mention of that in second Thessalonians two, as Paul talks about the man of sin, the son of perdition. So, he opposes and exalts himself against all that is called god, that is worshipped, so that he is god and sits in the temple calling himself God and declaring himself to be God, speaking blasphemies against God.

And it was given unto him to make war with the saints, and to overcome them: and power was given him over all the families, tongues, and nations ([Rev 13:7](#)).

Now, this war with the saints and overcomes them also is predicted in Daniel. He makes war with the saints, Daniel says, and prevails against them. These saints could not be the church of Jesus Christ. When Jesus announced to Peter his church, he said, "Upon this rock I will build my church and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it." There is no way that Satan can prevail against the church of Jesus Christ.

But these are the people who have received Christ during this final seven-year period after the church has been taken out. As a result of the witness of those two witnesses, or the witness of the one hundred and forty-four thousand, these people have received Jesus Christ as Lord. They have

acknowledged Jesus as their Lord. But "he will make war against them and prevail them". He has power to put to death and he will put to death those that believe in Jesus Christ. But being martyred is preferable to submitting to his authority or worshipping him, because we will find out in the next chapter that if anybody worships him they lose any chance of salvation forever.

And so John tells us here of the reign over all of the families of the earth, the tongues, and the nations.

And all that dwell upon the earth shall worship him, whose names are not written in the book of life of the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world ([Rev 13:8](#)).

So, there is interestingly enough a book of life. And Moses made mention of this when he was praying to God and interceding for the nation of Israel. "God forgive and if not them," he said, "I pray you will blot my name out of your book of remembrances" ([Exodus 32:32](#)).

The book of life is mentioned again here in the book of Revelation. Paul makes mention of it. And Paul tells us that our names were written in the book of life from the foundation of the world. Now, here is the book of life of the Lamb, the Lamb who was slain from the foundation of the world.

Now, there is a teaching that I feel borders on blasphemy of the character of God that declares the limited knowledge of God. In other words, it would deny that God is omniscient, that He knows all things. And this teaching basically declares that Adam disappointed God and took him by surprise when Adam sinned. That then the plan of redemption was inaugurated. Now that Adam blows it, what are we going to do? And then the redemption plan was then devised. But here the plan of redemption we are told existed before the foundation of the world, before man was ever created. God knew.

Why would God create man if He knew that man was going to blow it? Because God desired fellowship. God desired meaningful fellowship with man. It's a big universe. You could get awfully lonely in the universe. But to have true friends, to have a meaningful relationship with them there has got to be this freedom.

God could create robots. The worship of a robot would be meaningless. The robot says, "I love you," but how do you know? It is all programmed into his computer. You could also program into the computer "I hate you." Again it wouldn't do too much to you. You wouldn't go home all devastated because the robot said, "I hate you". You know it is just a robot. It doesn't have a will of its own. It is only spitting out what has been programmed into it. God could have made us that way like little robots spitting out what is programmed in, but you really would not have a meaningful relationship. You will never develop a meaningful relationship with a robot. You may have a more meaningful relationship with your dog than you will a robot, because your dog can disobey you at times too. He has the will.

You usually make him submit to your will, but he has a will of his own. So you can develop a relationship of sorts with a dog, but you will never be able to develop a relationship with a robot.

So, God made us with our free wills in order that my relationship with Him might be meaningful. I don't have to relate to God. I can blaspheme God, if I want. I can turn my back on God, if I want. And because there is that capacity, and because my relationship with God is something that is volitional on my part, I want to relate to Him. I desire and long for this relationship. I love Him and my declaration of such is meaningful then, because it is the expression of my will. You see, I don't have to; I am not forced to.

So from the foundation of the world, God knew that man was going to sin. God was ready to redeem man using really a strong incentive for man to come to God declaring God's love to man. I mean, how could God show you that He loves you more than by sending His Son to die in your place? "Greater love," Jesus said, "is no man than this, that a man will lay down his life for his friends" ([John 15:13](#)). The supreme sacrifice showing supreme love.

No man can ever doubt God's love who looks at the cross. And it is interesting that God never seeks to prove His love for you apart from the cross. There is not one scripture where God tries to prove His love for you except those that relate to the cross. "God so loved the world He gave His only begotten Son." "Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us and gave His Son as the propitiation for our sins"([1 John 4:10](#)). "For God demonstrated His love towards us in that while we were yet sinners Christ died for the ungodly"([Romans 5:8](#)). And God giving His Son to you is the only way by which God has ever sought to prove that He loves you.

Sometimes in our relationships, as peril as they often are, we say prove that you love me? Want do you want? Sees Candy, or at Calvary, Helen Grace Candy. Prove that you love me. Well, if you would say to God, "prove that you love me?" He would just point to the cross. There is the proof. It is the only proof that you will ever need. Jesus died for your sins, and that was a part of God's plan from the foundation of the world. Now, because He knows all things, that is, when He wrote your name in that book, knowing my response to His love and grace, my name was written in the book of Life from the foundation of the world.

Now, some have suggested that God has written everybody's name in, but then those who refuse to receive the grace of God, their names are blotted out. I don't know, but here we are told that "those that dwell upon the earth whose names were not written"; so it sort of contradicts that concept that everybody's name was written, whose names were not written, or are not written in the book of life, slain from the foundation of the world.

If any man have an ear, let him hear ([Rev 13:9](#)).

Whenever the Lord has had something quite important to say, He usually throws in, "He that hath an ear to, let him hear".

He that leads into captivity shall go into captivity ([Rev 13:10](#)):

Now, the antichrist is making war against the saints taking them captive, destroying them; but they that live by the sword will die by the sword. Those that take those believers into captivity will themselves soon be taken into captivity.

he that kills with the sword must be killed with the sword. Here is the patience and the faith of the saints ([Rev 13:10](#)).

So, it is a word of encouragement to the saints who are going to be experiencing this horrible persecution from the antichrist.