

The Antichrist Revealed (Message #29)

Revelation 13: 1-10

We have dealt with some interesting passages over the past couple of weeks. We have been reminded of the role of Israel in the birth of Christ and her plight during the Tribulation. We have seen Satan defeated and forever removed from heaven.

We can rejoice that Satan is defeated, but we must remember that he is determined to fight against the kingdom of God until the bitter end. One of the tactics he loves to use is producing a counterfeit of God's work. We believe in God as the Holy Trinity and Satan will produce his trinity. The great dragon tries to imitate the Father. The beast, or Antichrist, will imitate the Son, and next week we will look at the false prophet who will imitate the Holy Spirit. We've learned much about Satan already and tonight we will see: [The Antichrist Revealed](#).

I. The Startling Appearance of the Beast (1-2) – The Antichrist will one day appear on the scene. There have been many claims as to who he will be. Some claimed Hitler, others the pope, and now one person suggests that he is George W. Bush. No one knows for sure, but he will appear at the appointed time. It is possible that he is alive today. I have no reason to doubt that we are that close to the end times! What can we discover about the beast?

A. His Origin (1a) – [And I stood upon the sand of the sea, and saw a beast rise up out of the sea.](#) John saw [a beast rise up out of the sea](#). This is clearly symbolic as the sea represents humanity, [17:15 – And he saith unto me, The waters which thou sawest, where the whore sitteth, are peoples, and multitudes, and nations, and tongues.](#)

- The great Harlot, or apostate church, will rise from the masses of humanity just like the beast. Jesus came from the womb of God's chosen people. The Antichrist will come from the womb of sinful, rebellious men.

B. His Description (1b-2a) – [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. 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:](#) Once again we see symbolic language. Anti-christ will not appear as a grotesque beast, but as a charming, charismatic leader.

- This symbolic description reveals his true nature. **Seven heads** – This is further explained in [17:9 – And here is the mind which hath wisdom. The seven heads are seven mountains, on which the woman sitteth.](#) The Harlot is carried upon the beast, [17:3 – So he](#)

carried me away in the spirit into the wilderness: and I saw a woman sit upon a scarlet coloured beast, full of names of blasphemy, having seven heads and ten horns. She will establish her apostate religion on 7 hills. Rome is situated on 7 hills and most scholars agree that Antichrist will operate from Rome.

- **Ten Horns** – As we've seen before, a symbol of power and authority. This is described in 17:12 – *And the ten horns which thou sawest are ten kings, which have received no kingdom as yet; but receive power as kings one hour with the beast.* This represents 10 “kings” or world leaders who will work with the beast.
- **Ten Crowns** – Each of these 10 kings will possess power and authority. Antichrist will form a league of nations to fulfill his diabolical plan. This isn't beyond reasonable explanation. We already have the UN well established, along with the European Union. The EU currently has a common currency established, the euro, that is used in many nations.
- **Name of blasphemy** – The beast and his kings will stand in defiance of God, rejecting Christ and those who follow Him. The new alliance will stand united in opposition to the Lord.
- **His Body** (Dan.7:3-8) – *And four great beasts came up from the sea, diverse one from another. [4] The first was like a lion, and had eagle's wings: I beheld till the wings thereof were plucked, and it was lifted up from the earth, and made stand upon the feet as a man, and a man's heart was given to it. [5] And behold another beast, a second, like to a bear, and it raised up itself on one side, and it had three ribs in the mouth of it between the teeth of it: and they said thus unto it, Arise, devour much flesh. [6] After this I beheld, and lo another, like a leopard, which had upon the back of it four wings of a fowl; the beast had also four heads; and dominion was given to it. [7] After this I saw in the night visions, and behold a fourth beast, dreadful and terrible, and strong exceedingly; and it had great iron teeth: it devoured and brake in pieces, and stamped the residue with the feet of it: and it was diverse from all the beasts that were before it; and it had ten horns. [8] I considered the horns, and, behold, there came up among them another little horn, before whom there were three of the first horns plucked up by the roots: and, behold, in this horn were eyes like the eyes of man, and a mouth speaking great things. **Lion** – V.4, Babylon – dominate and fearful. **Bear** – V.5, Medes-Persians – Great power in crushing their enemies. **Leopard** – V.6, Greek empire – swift domination. **Rome** – V.7, Their iron teeth dominated the ancient world.*
- John's description parallels that of Daniel. Antichrist will possess all the strength and domination of these former world powers. Imagine all the brutality and ferocity of these former kingdoms magnified into one dominant world power! That's what this world will face when Antichrist appears.

C. His Power (2b) – *and the dragon gave him his power, and his seat, and great authority.* Antichrist will rule the world with the power and influence of Satan. He will establish Antichrist's seat of power and give him great authority. The word **authority** refers to “*the ability to do as one pleases.*” Antichrist will rule as he pleases and the world will be helpless to defeat his dreadful tyranny.

I. The Startling Appearance of the Beast (1-2)

II. The Seductive Appeal of the Beast (3-4) – As I mentioned, the beast will come on the scene and capture the hearts of men through his deception. The world will follow and worship this imitator of Christ. Notice:

A. His Miraculous Wonder (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.* At some point during his reign, Antichrist will receive, or at least appear to receive, a mortal wound and die. As the world mourns the death of their supposed redeemer, he will miraculously come back to life. He will appear to resurrect from the dead. The false prophet's propaganda campaign will distribute the news of his resurrection and elevate the beast to new heights of popularity and influence.

- What a contrast to what we witnessed concerning the two witnesses. This has to be one of Satan's most prized achievements. He was soundly defeated as Christ rose from the dead and he seeks to counterfeit the Lord's resurrection with Antichrist. The world denies and continues to reject the resurrection of Christ, but they will follow Antichrist at his resurrection.

B. His Mass Worship (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?* The world will be ripe for the deception of Satan. As Antichrist reappears, he will be worshipped by the entire world. They will proclaim that there is none like him.

- This is a far cry from the cries of Crucify, Crucify that the world proclaimed at Calvary. The Son of God had come to men and was rejected and scorned, but Antichrist will receive the praise of men as they submit to him in worship. Satan will enjoy a season of worship as the world serves him and his imitator of Christ.

- The world will believe that Antichrist is invincible, *v.4b*. Satan and his trinity had better enjoy their brief moment of worship, because there is One who is well able to make war with them and defeat them!

III. The Sinful Ambition of the Beast (5-8) – As his power and influence increases he will begin his hellish campaign on the world.

A. He will Deny the Savior (5-6) – *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. And he opened his mouth in blasphemy against God, to blaspheme his name, and his tabernacle, and them that*

[dwell in heaven](#). Antichrist will be a man of great speaking ability. He will captivate the world with his “silver tongued” message. He will speak a message that the world longs to hear.

- Even as he blasphemes the Lord, mankind will continue to worship their god the beast. His ultimate goal will be to turn men away from the true and living God through his message of deception and hinder their faith in Christ.

B. He will Detest the Saints (7a) – [And it was given unto him to make war with the saints, and to overcome them](#): Antichrist will wage war against those who are faithful unto the Lord and worship Him. He will mercilessly hunt down those who profess faith in Christ. His focus will be to rid the world of those who are believers.

- Christians have faced great persecution since the birth of the church, but this will only intensify as Antichrist and the world leaders encourage the wholesale slaughter of innocent people who profess Christ as Lord. We have never seen a holocaust on this scale.

C. He will Dominate Society (7b) – [and power was given him over all kindreds, and tongues, and nations](#). He will quite literally rule the world. Sovereign nations will relinquish their authority and submit themselves to this world dictator. There have been many throughout history that have sought to rule the world and failed, but Antichrist will completely accomplish world rule through the power of Satan. It is hard to imagine the entire world under such evil influence, but that is what the Tribulation will bring.

D. He will Deceive Sinners (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](#). Here we encounter the earth dwellers again. If you remember these are they who have driven their stakes deep in this world. They have denied Christ and the holiness of God. They are living life as they please with no regard for the Lord or concern of any accountability.

- All who have rejected Christ as the Lamb slain for mankind will bow and worship Satan’s false christ. What a pitiful condition for millions to find themselves in. They have rejected the Savior for Satan’s superman. These will be doomed to an eternity in hell.

John closes with a solemn warning, [v.9 – If any man have an ear, let him hear](#). Those left here during this time will face God’s judgment and wrath. The Lord desires you to heed His call. Jesus was, in fact, [the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world](#).

Each of us has a choice to make, [V.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.](#) If you choose the captivity of sin over freedom in Christ Jesus, then captivity you shall have. If you choose eternal death and separation over eternal life through Jesus' blood then that will be your destiny. If you have never been saved and the trumpet was to sound, calling out the church, you would be left to worship the beast. There won't be another opportunity after the rapture, [2 Thes.2:7-12](#). Why not come and receive the living Christ and worship Him? Your eternal destiny rests upon what you do with Jesus in this life!