

BEAST OUT OF THE EARTH

REVELATION 13:11-18

Text:

Introduction:

For the past few weeks we have been treading unholy ground. We have spent a lot of time talking about the devil and his activities during the Tribulation. I would just remind you today that Satan is an imitator. He hasn't had an original thought in over six thousand years.

As we all know, there is a Holy Trinity. The Holy Trinity is comprised of God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit. The Holy Trinity is these three individuals Who are one God. Satan has a trinity too. His trinity, however, is anything but holy.

The unholy trinity is composed of Satan, the Antichrist and the False Prophet. Each member of the Holy Trinity has a specific purpose. God the Father receives the worship of His people through His Son the Lord Jesus Christ. The Holy Spirit is the facilitator of this holy worship. He stirs up the heart of the believer and causes him or her to worship God.

Remember, Satan is an imitator. His trinity functions exactly the same way. In Satan's unholy trinity, Satan receives the worship through the person of the Antichrist and the False Prophet facilitates this worship.

We have already considered the first two members of the unholy trinity. We have looked extensively at Satan and at the Antichrist. In this message we will look at these verses and get a glimpse of the False Prophet. He is the person who will guide the world's religion during the Tribulation Period. Let's look into these verses together and notice the insights the Bible gives us concerning ***The Beast From The Earth***.

1. HIS MISSION

Revelation 13:11-12

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. 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.

A. Appearance – Like a lamb

B. Actuality – Spoke like a dragon

2. HIS MIRACLES

Revelation 13:13

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

Revelation 13:15

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.

We are told that the False Prophet will be a man of miracles. He will duplicate the miracles of the Two Witnesses, **Rev. 11:5**.

Revelation 11:5

⁵ And if any man will hurt them, fire proceedeth out of their mouth, and devoureth their enemies: and if any man will hurt them, he must in this manner be killed.

He will duplicate the miracle of Elijah in **1 Kings 18**.

1 Kings 18:36-39

³⁶ And it came to pass at *the time of* the offering of the *evening* sacrifice, that Elijah the prophet came near, and said, LORD God of Abraham, Isaac, and of Israel, let it be known this day that thou *art* God in Israel, and *that I am* thy servant, and *that I have* done all these things at thy word. ³⁷ Hear me, O LORD, hear me, that this people may know that thou *art* the LORD God, and *that* thou hast turned their heart back again. ³⁸ Then the fire of the LORD fell, and consumed the burnt sacrifice, and the wood, and the stones, and the dust, and licked up the water that *was* in the trench. ³⁹ And when all the people saw *it*, they fell on their faces: and they said, The LORD, he *is* the God; the LORD, he *is* the God.

When Elijah called fire down from Heaven, men fell to their faces and worshiped Jehovah. When the False Prophet calls down fire from the sky, men will fall on their faces and worship the devil!

This False Prophet will lead the world to build an idol, an image of the Antichrist. He will cause this image to come to life. This image will speak to the people. They will be deceived by his power and his miracles and they will fall down in worship of the beast and his image. The ministry of the False Prophet will be marked by exciting and powerful miracles. His miracles will deceive the world.

3. HIS MOTIVE

Revelation 13:14-15

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. 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.

A. Deceive

The False Prophet does all of this stuff for the sole purpose of getting the world to worship the Antichrist. The world will fall for this deception and they will worship the Antichrist. Those who refuse, orthodox

Jews and those who have been saved during the Tribulation, will be hunted down and destroyed.

Today, you can worship any god you please to worship, or you can worship no god at all, if that is your choice. In that day, you will either worship the Antichrist or you will pay for your disobedience with your life.

4. HIS MARK

Revelation 13:16-18

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. 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.

A. Mark of Identification

There has been much speculation concerning what the Mark of the Beast might be. Some believe that it might be some sort of a barcode system that is tattooed into the skin.

Scientists have developed tiny microchips the size of grains of rice. These chips can carry all of your medical and financial information and they can be read with a simple scanner. These chips are already being used in pets, and there is talk of placing these microchips in babies to prevent kidnappings and mistakes at the

hospitals. It is possible that technology of this nature could be used to fulfill this passage. It is also possible to place GPS transmitters in chips the size of jelly beans. With these transmitters, people can be tracked regardless of where they are in the world.

Of course, technology has advanced to the place where people can be identified instantly by scanning their fingerprints, (Ill. My computer), and the retinas of their eyes. DNA technology is advancing at such a rate that simple genetic testing will soon be possible almost instantly. Who knows what the devil will use? There are certainly enough resources available to him in these days.

As you know, the use of plastic currency is quickly replacing cash as the standard in business transactions. It has been suggested that the Mark of the Beast will actually be a credit card system of some sort. This is already being used in many cases for food stamps and other government services. Whether we like it or not, we are headed toward a cashless society. It makes sense! Without cash, crooks and drug dealers have a more difficult time. Without cash, there is less likelihood that people could hide their income from the IRS. We are moving in that direction.

B. Mark of Isolation

The mark will be tied to the economy. People will be required to produce the Mark of the Beast in order to

be able to buy or sell. This, in itself, will be a great enticement for people to receive the Mark of the Beast. In order to hold a job, to get credit, to access bank accounts, or to do something so mundane as buy a loaf of bread, will require a person to have the Mark of the Beast.

We recently have seen the collapse of several banks. I feel this is setting the stage for this as well.

This mark will instantly divide the world into two camps. The Mark of the Beast will declare who worships the Antichrist and who does not. It will prove to be a mark of isolation.

C. Mark of Information

1. The name of the Beast
2. The nature of the Beast