

1 **A STUDY OF THE BOOK OF REVELATION**

LESSON 42

2 **RECAP OF LAST WEEK**

- We are continuing in our study of prophecy in the 13th chapter of the Book of Revelation
- Last week we finished through verse 3
- We read verses 1 through 3 and learned about the nations and the history they represent
- Tonight we'll be studying chapter 13 verses 4 through 6
- We have seen a change in the time we are studying, where we are now dealing with a man rather than an empire
- There is an empire but the man becomes greater than the empire
- The man's influence reaches into every part of the earth

3 **REVIEW**

- Daniel does not recognize the empire of the Antichrist because the man becomes so much more important
- This man Antichrist will probably be recognized before the Rapture takes place
- The man will have to be here and in power before Satan takes over his body at the time of the Rapture
- Daniel puts the rise of the "little horn", Antichrist, before the heavenly scenes we see in Revelation 4 and 5

4 **WORSHIP OF THE DRAGON**

Revelation 13:4-6

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?

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.

5 **WORSHIP OF THE DRAGON cont.**

- Who is the dragon and what is the beast in these scriptures we just read?
- The dragon is Satan and the "beast" is representative of the word power, or powerful, showing the man with the power of Satan
- It is Satan who gives power to the beast and this fact is known to world; no mystery, no secret, no coverup
- When Satan is cast out he comes to the earth as Satan and people will be ready to accept him for who he is
- They knowingly worship Satan knowing who he is
- These worshippers are not the church left behind
- Why would they do this?

6 **WORSHIP OF THE DRAGON cont.**

- They like the fact that he has the power, that they've been needing and looking for, to solve their problems
- His cunning, his miracles, and his ability to bring a semblance of peace and prosperity encourage their worship and it does not matter who he is to them
- This man, with the power of Satan, is able to give them the kind of life they want
- The worship of a man and the worship of Satan are one and the same, as is the worship of Jesus Christ and the worship of God
- When the people worship Antichrist, they worship the devil
- The worship of a man is satanic in its conception

7 **WORSHIP OF THE DRAGON cont.**

- On a smaller scale its much like the Pope, that man is worshipped; they kneel to him, they kiss his ring, they do obedience to him
- This worship of Satan as Antichrist is not that much different, it is worship of a man which is satanic in its conception
- The worship of man is a direct result of the falling away from the

power of God and the truth of God

- The power and truth of God fell when Catholicism was first instituted in 324 AD at the Council of Nicaea
- It was then that church began to lose the purity of truth and the love and power from God
- This is why the fruit began gradually to disappear from the Tree of Life

8 **WORSHIP OF THE DRAGON cont.**

- With the fruits went the gifts of the Spirit
- This came when the false religion and false worship of Catholicism came into being
- Then in the latter rain came the truth and with the truth came the infilling of the Holy Ghost
- With the infilling of the Holy Ghost came the power and then God has gradually added back the fruits and gifts of the Spirit
- The restoration of the truth and the fruits and gifts reach their full power just before the Rapture
- After the Rapture, when the Holy Spirit is lifted, then will be the falling away from the power and truth and all that's left is the weak and they'll be martyred

9 **WORSHIP OF THE DRAGON cont.**

- The removal of the power and truth of God also leads the people to worship this man instead of God, knowing that they're worshipping Satan as he gives them the power
- This is not a difficult concept to understand
- We have this scenario today but on a much smaller scale
- When you obey the natural, you are worshipping the human side of you and the natural things in life
- The following Scriptures in II Thessalonians are a total picture of conditions just before and after the time of the Rapture

10 **THE COMING OF ANTICHRIST**

2 Thessalonians 2:1-4

1 Now we beseech you, brethren, by the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, and by our gathering together unto him,
2 that ye be not soon shaken in mind, or be troubled, neither by spirit, nor by word, nor by letter as from us, as that the day of Christ is at hand.
3 Let no man deceive you by any means: for that day shall not come, except there come a falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition;
4 who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God, or that is worshipped; so that he as God sitteth in the temple of God, showing himself that he is God.

11 **HOLY SPIRIT TAKEN OUT OF THE WAY**

2 Thessalonians 2:5-9

5 Remember ye not, that, when I was yet with you, I told you these things?
6 And now ye know what withholdeth that he might be revealed in his time.
7 For the mystery of iniquity doth already work: only he who now letteth will let, until he be taken out of the way.
8 And then shall that Wicked be revealed, whom the Lord shall consume with the spirit of his mouth, and shall destroy with the brightness of his coming:
9 even him, whose coming is after the working of Satan with all power and signs and lying wonders,

12 **GOD SHALL SEND A STRONG DELUSION**

2 Thessalonians 2:10-12

10 and with all deceivableness of unrighteousness in them that perish; because they received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved.
11 And for this cause God shall send them strong delusion, that they should believe a lie:
12 that they all might be damned who believed not the truth, but had

pleasure in unrighteousness.

- There is only a step between the worship of man and the worship of Satan; they are the same in the final result
- In the last days of this age the worship of Satan will become common

13 **WORSHIP OF THE DRAGON**

- The worship of Satan will be associated with the worship of a man and will be considered the same thing
- They are the same in that when you worship a man you are worshipping the human side and the human side is the satanic side or carnal side
- Verse 4 tells us they first worshipped the dragon and then they worshipped the beast; they become one and the same thing as Satan is within this man's body
- Verse 5 tells us this power was given to Antichrist for 42 months, which is 3-1/2 years
- This verse has led many to believe that Antichrist will reign only for these 3-1/2 years – this is not what the Bible says

14 **THE TIME ELEMENT**

- Daniel says that Antichrist will confirm a seven year's covenant with many
- Antichrist reigns over the Jews for two 3-1/2 year periods (the period of judgement only, no grace)
- The first 3-1/2 year period Antichrist makes his covenant with many, not the whole nation, but with enough that have power
- The second 3-1/2 year period he sets himself up as god in the temple, no pretense about it
- Therefore the reign of Antichrist must be at least seven years
- Antichrist is actually reigning when he confirms this covenant of seven years

15 **THE TIME ELEMENT cont.**

- Antichrist will also be reigning during the first 3-1/2 year period of The Great Tribulation which brings his reign to the three 3-1/2 years periods which is 10-1/2 years
- The forty-two months (3-1/2 years) of this chapter¹³ have nothing to do with the Jews nor with either half of the seven years (judgement only) mentioned by Daniel
- This forty-two months in verse 5 is the length of time that the beast will continue to make war with the saints, for that is the subject of chapter 13
- The Antichrist was given this 3-1/2 year period to bring about The Great Tribulation

16 **THE TIME ELEMENT cont.**

Daniel 7:25

25 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.

- A time and times and the dividing of time is Daniel's symbolic way of saying 3-1/2 years
- It is the length of time that the woman, the church, is pursued by the dragon

17 **THE TIME ELEMENT GRAPHIC**

18 **THE TIME ELEMENT cont.**

Revelation 12:6

6 And the woman fled into the wilderness, where she hath a place prepared of God, that they should feed her there a thousand two hundred and threescore days.

Revelation 13:14

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.

19 **THE TIME ELEMENT cont.**

Revelation 12:14

14 And to the woman were given two wings of a great eagle, that she might fly into the wilderness, into her place, where she is nourished for a time, and times, and half a time, from the face of the serpent.

Revelation 13:7

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.

20 **THE TIME ELEMENT cont.**

- This is the time period we are studying, the first 3-1/2 years after the Rapture
- This man that rises in power before the Rapture, that will be in that area of the Old Roman Empire, will begin to show he can bring peace, dominate and control
- Verse 4 ends with "who is able to make war with him?"
- This tells us that one of the main reasons as to why the world will worship him is his ability to make war
- He has the power to control by his ability to make war and to win it; who can go against him?
- This gives us some notion about the circumstance of his rise

21 **THE POWER OF ANTICHRIST**

- His ability to make war is so dramatic because he uses supernatural powers to be able to control
- He does not have to use nuclear power to control, he has satanic power which is much stronger
- His demonstrated power will bring much world admiration; he brings peace, he shuts them up, and no one dare go against him
- Satan gives him his powers and only God has greater powers so who

on earth can challenge him?

- His rise will be against great odds as evidenced by the dramatic demonstration of his ability to make war
- He is already in power when the Rapture takes place and then Satan takes over his body when he's cast out

22 **WORSHIP OF THE DRAGON AND THE BEAST**

- The source of Antichrist's power will be known
- Verse 6 tells us "He opened his mouth..." which is a demonstration of his power
- Satan blasphemes those he cannot reach to persecute; the Raptured saints
- He does kill the saints within his reach, those of The Great Tribulation
- There will be no exceptions in the bride, period
- There is another group just out of his reach, just enough to make him furious – the 144,000 on Mt. Zion
- It is only these 144,000 Jews that are on Mt. Zion, no one else

23 **THE PROTECTED**

- These 144,000 are protected from the plagues by the seal and from Antichrist by their place of abode
- Mt. Zion is the one place Antichrist never reaches
- Mt. Zion will be saved by the second coming of Jesus Christ at the battle of Armageddon
- The Jews will recognize Jesus as the Messiah just before He comes back
- One of the greatest signs of God's protection and presence is the ark of the covenant in the tabernacle or temple
- Right now, today, the ark is gone and there is no temple

24 **THE TEMPLE, TABERNACLE & ARK**

- The tabernacle will be built again and the ark of the covenant will appear and be placed in Mt. Zion
- The ark will be visited until its symbolism is fulfilled by the complete restoration; then it will no longer be visited

25 **THE TABERNACLE REBUILT**

Amos 9:11-13

11 In that day will I raise up the tabernacle of David that is fallen, and close up the breaches thereof; and I will raise up his ruins, and I will build it as in the days of old:

12 that they may possess the remnant of Edom, and of all the heathen, which are called by my name, saith the Lord that doeth this.

13 Behold, the days come, saith the Lord, that the plowman shall overtake the reaper, and the treader of grapes him that soweth seed; and the mountains shall drop sweet wine, and all the hills shall melt.

26 **THE TABERNACLE REBUILT cont.**

Amos 9:14-15

14 And I will bring again the captivity of my people of Israel, and they shall build the waste cities, and inhabit them; and they shall plant vineyards, and drink the wine thereof; they shall also make gardens, and eat the fruit of them.

15 And I will plant them upon their land, and they shall no more be pulled up out of their land which I have given them, saith the Lord thy God.

- The Mosque of Omar on the Temple Mount will be destroyed and the tabernacle rebuilt
- Jeremiah chapter three shows they have been visiting the tabernacle and the ark at the end of the Lord's day and then they don't have to do it any more as all is restored and there is no longer Jews and Gentiles

27 **THE TABERNACLE REBUILT cont.**

Jeremiah 3:16-17

16 And it shall come to pass, when ye be multiplied and increased in the land, in those days, saith the Lord, they shall say no more, The ark of the covenant of the Lord: neither shall it come to mind; neither shall they remember it; neither shall they visit it; neither shall that be

done any more.

17 At that time they shall call Jerusalem the throne of the Lord; and all the nations shall be gathered unto it, to the name of the Lord, to Jerusalem: neither shall they walk any more after the imagination of their evil heart.

- As Jesus will set up His throne, on the throne of David, they will have no need of the ark; He will be there so the symbol of the ark will no longer be needed