

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

LESSON 44

2 **REVIEW**

- Last week we left off in the 13th chapter of the Book of Revelation and we discussed at length the verse of Scripture in verse 8 concerning the names written in the Lamb's book of life from the foundation of the world
- As we studied this in depth we found it opened many more avenues of understanding
- We can now see much more clearly what it is that God is trying to bring us to
- We currently have an "open door" access to Jesus Christ
- We can also see how God always intended mankind's relationship with Him to be

3 **REVIEW CONT.**

- We realized in Genesis chapter 1 how many years there were between verses 1 and 2: billions!
- The first time God manifested this world He was laying the foundations of what we are today
- Billions of years ago God sat down and wrote the book of life and put the names in it before the foundation of the world
- God knows the ending from the beginning and He knew He would have a people so He created the world after He had written their names in the book
- We are going to continue in this line of study as we continue from verse 8

4 **HISTORY OF THE DRAGON**

Revelation 13:9

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

- How far back in this long history did the archangel Lucifer become Satan?
- We already know that Lucifer was Satan when mankind was in the Garden of Eden
- Satan had access to mankind from the very beginning
- God does have a purpose for the access by Satan
- Satan has access to us to but it is controlled
- Adam and Eve could have avoided the temptation and they knew better
- We do not know when Lucifer actually became Satan

5 **HISTORY OF THE DRAGON cont.**

- It very well could have been at the foundation of this world or before
- God has no beginning or ending; He has always been and always will be
- The archangel Lucifer could have been billions of years old before God sat down and wrote the book of life
- We just do not know at what point this change in him happened; his fall because of his pride
- It took a long time to make this earth what it is today
- The earth had everything we would need in it when God made mankind after His own image

6 **GOD CREATED MAN**

Genesis 1:26-27

26 And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth.

10 So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them.

- God created man a living soul and housed him in a body he created for him

- We are to be in the image of God
- With sin coming in, mankind got so far from that image that his thoughts were on evil continually because of Satan always coming between God and His creation

7 **GOD CREATED MAN cont.**

- God made mankind to be like Him
- So God sent Jesus Christ into this world that He might again show us and be that perfect example to us that we might see the image of God through Him and that we might find our way back to what God created us to be
- This time when He created man, He would not destroy what He had made; He would redeem it
- In redeeming His creation God would accomplish two things for which He had labored these billions of years
- He would not destroy the world again
- We can see what God intended mankind to be

8 **REDEMPTION OF THE SAINTS**

- God is going to redeem the world and mankind back to Himself
- By His redemption process the first thing God would accomplish is to develop a people with strength of character and nobleness of soul such as would be impossible to create directly
- This would be accomplished by the very opposition of Satan
- We learn by the things we have to endure
- By this very opposition of Satan God is developing a people; by persecutions, trials, temptations, false accusations, chastisements, etc.

9 **CONFORMED TO THE IMAGE OF JESUS**

- We learn that we can endure these things as we have the peace of God, the joy of God, and the knowledge that it can't last too long
- Satan does not want the world to know these truths about God which is why he is fighting so hard in these end times
- If Satan can keep us ignorant of these truths then he's won we will

have lost our souls

- It would be impossible to directly create a people who had this strength of character that overcame Satan
- The things that make overcomers come out of life – not life under perfect conditions as the angels have, but under adverse conditions such as the saints have

10 ☐ **CONFORMED TO THE IMAGE OF JESUS cont.**

- Our trials make us strong
- God wanted a strong, noble, and proven people that loved Him above all else
- God put mankind under these adverse conditions and it was under these adverse conditions, such as the redeemed saints have, that God could have a people with rare virtues
- God tells us we are to be purified by the fires and come forth as pure gold
- "Beloved, think it not strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try you, as though some strange thing happened unto you:" I Peter 4:12
- It is such a great privilege to be tried and proven by God

11 ☐ **CONFORMED TO THE IMAGE OF JESUS cont.**

- By these accomplishments God is making a people worthy
- Worthy of what?
- We are to rule and reign with Jesus Christ (Revelation 20:4-6)
- Some of the rare virtues are: patience, faith, hope, and love.....fruits of the Spirit
- Jesus Christ is the first born among many brethren (Romans 8:29) and we are to pattern ourselves after Him
- This is what we were created for – to endure until the end
- This is what God planned when He wrote our names down in the book of life

12 ☐ **REDEMPTION OF THE TRIED & PROVEN**

- The second thing that God would accomplish by redemption of a tried and proven people is that these very people bring about a crisis

- in heaven that results in the total defeat of Satan
- God would have an army of overcomers who would know by firsthand experience just how to handle Satan
- God would not only have a perfect world, but He would have a kingdom of priests who would know how to run that world

13 **A ROYAL PRIESTHOOD**

I Peter 2:9

9 But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should show forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvelous light:

- We are chosen to rule and reign with Jesus Christ
- This royal priesthood has to be trained and so they would know how to run a perfect world
- These are those who have overcome themselves

14 **A ROYAL PRIESTHOOD cont.**

- The 1000-year reign of peace will be governed by a tight and controlled government whereby if they do not come to the Holy City of Jerusalem, which is on earth where He sets up His kingdom with those ruling and reigning with Him, He sends out His redeemed saints to bring them in
- The inhabitants of the earth are to be trained to be peaceful during the millennial reign and the raptured saints will be the trainers
- All this and more is involved in these simple words: from the foundation of the world
- The Book of Revelation is the consummation of what God had in mind when He wrote those names in the book of life

15 **A ROYAL PRIESTHOOD cont.**

- It is no wonder He says "He that hath an ear let him hear"
- God wants us to fully comprehend and get in our minds what He is saying here
- It is only by His Spirit and His Word that we can actually hear what

He has to say

16 **A ROYAL PRIESTHOOD cont.**

Luke 22:28-30

28 Ye are they which have continued with me in my temptations.

29 And I appoint unto you a kingdom, as my Father hath appointed unto me;

30 that ye may eat and drink at my table in my kingdom, and sit on thrones judging the twelve tribes of Israel.

- This is during the 1,000 years of peace also known as the millennium
- "Know you not that you should judge the angels" (1 Corinthians 6:3)

17 **A ROYAL PRIESTHOOD cont.**

- ".....if we suffer, we shall also reign with him:" (2 Timothy 2:12)

• "To him that overcometh will I grant to sit with me in my throne, even as I also overcame, and am set down with my Father in his throne." (Revelation 3:21)

- As we go on in Revelation we will be changing subjects

18 **THE BEAST OUT OF THE EARTH**

Revelation 13:11-14

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.

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.

19 **THE BEAST OUT OF THE EARTH cont.**

Revelation 13:15-18

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.

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.

20 **THE BEAST OUT OF THE EARTH cont.**

- This is one of the most well known parts of Revelation throughout the world: the mark of the beast and 666
- It really isn't the big deal that it has been made out to be
- We have already studied the beast out of the sea, Antichrist
- The word "beast" is a descriptive of the word "powerful"
- The beast out of the sea and the beast out of the earth are simply powerful evil beings
- There is a slight difference between the beasts
- The name Antichrist is not directly applied to either one of these beasts in the Bible

21 **THE BEASTS**

- The term "Antichrist" appears only 4 times in the Bible, all in I and II John
- John applies the word to anyone who opposes Jesus Christ
- We use this word to describe THE Antichrist; the one who opposes Jesus the greatest, the most evil
- We give him that name because he is the man whose body Satan occupies and Satan is the greatest opposer of Jesus Christ there ever has been

- This is not a Scriptural name for him, it is a name we give him as it is a befitting title
- Antichrist can be applied to either or both of these individuals that Revelation calls beasts

22 **THE BEASTS cont.**

- The dragon and the two beasts are one in spirit and purpose and there is no reason for separating them in our thinking
- These three are a kind of unholy trinity
- There is no trinity in God; our God is one (Mark 12:29)
- Likewise with Satan; there is one spirit and three manifestations of that spirit we call the dragon, Antichrist, and the False Prophet
- Just as there is one Spirit in God, there is one spirit in Satan
- All the power comes from the one Spirit in God, all the power comes from the one spirit in Satan
- The people who worship both the beasts and the dragon recognize this

23 **THE BEAST OUT OF THE EARTH**

- Verse 11 tells us this beast has horns and he speaks like the dragon
- Satan occupied the body of the first beast, the one that came out of the sea and he had 10 horns
- It says his horns were like a lamb; lamb is not capitalized so it is not referring to Jesus
- The beast out of the earth is not as powerful as the beast out of the sea as his horns are smaller (horn=power)
- The beast out of the earth gives his power to the beast out of the sea

24 **THE TWO BEASTS**

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.

- The beast out of the earth, religious power, gives his power to beast out of the sea, political power
- This would be like the Pope turning over his power to the Antichrist: because he recognizes his master
- From now on we are seeing a mixture of the political and religious powers

25 **A DEMONSTRATION OF POWER**

- The first thing Satan has always wanted; to be worshipped
- The beast of the earth did great wonders in the sight of men
- This demonstration of power will deceive many
- ".....if it were possible they shall deceive the very elect." (Matthew 24:24)
- This is why for the very elects sake time is shortened (Matthew 24:22)
- It is not just the tribulations and trials, it takes us knowing the Word of God or we would be fooled
- We see in verse 14 the work of the Great Deceiver

26 **POWER OF DECEPTION**

- In verse 14, why did he, the beast of the earth, have power to do these miracles only in the sight of the beast?
- He is drawing on Satan's power because this something he cannot do himself
- We need to have this Word, a love for the truth, and be able to separate it out, discerning the spirits, in order for us not to be deceived
- By making the image to worship we are seeing what Satan always had in mind, the worship of him
- Without us being tied into the power of God by the Holy Spirit, we would also be deceived

27 **RELIGIOUS-POLITICAL POWERS**

- We have to keep our power and shield strong by keep growing and staying full of the Holy Spirit in order not to be deceived

- Politically there is no way the world is going to follow Satan (Antichrist) and he wants more than to just be followed
- In comes the religious faction, a man that all eyes can focus on, that will compel them to worship the dragon
- The religious faction is what cements the unity of these evil powers
- So here we have peace and now a world religion to bind them all together

28 **THE MARK OF THE BEAST**

- It will come down to: you either serve God or you serve Satan.....there is no in between
- This unification of the political and religious elements, and the peace it brings, will lead to all having to receive a mark as stated in verse 16
- Technology has progressed to the point of outpacing existing safeguards giving corporations and governments unprecedented abilities to harvest vast quantities of personal information including biometric data
- With this in mind, there is no way they will not know whether you take this mark or not

29 **THE MARK OF THE BEAST cont.**

- Part of taking this mark is becoming part of the world religion
- Refusal to do so will be a death sentence
- There is a great possibility this will be something like the Spanish Inquisition
- No man will be allowed to buy or sell anything without this mark
- Those who refuse will be killed or allowed to starve to death
- The age in which we live, and in the end days, we cannot live without buying or selling

30 **THE MARK OF THE BEAST cont.**

- The mark of the beast is something that people are always trying to figure out
- This name, mark, or number holds no great mystery; it is just a means of identification

- It is a law that is put in place by the religious power
- Those that refuse the mark will be the martyrs of the first 3-1/2 year period, the Great Tribulation
- There are many, an untold number, who will not take this mark
- It will be hard to enforce this law as enforcement will be hindered by the judgement sent from heaven
- Also, it is impossible to enforce an unpopular law

31 **THE MARK OF THE BEAST cont.**

- It is during this same time period that we see the supernatural preaching of the gospel for the heavens
- We will also see the work of the other 3 horsemen
- Remember when we studied numbers at the beginning of this Bible study what the number 6 represents?
- The number 6 represents evil, Satan's number, resulting in: 6=Satan (the dragon), 6=Antichrist (the beast out of the sea), 6=the False Prophet (the beast out of the earth) so this is the 666 we see in verse 18
- Only those with understanding of the Word of God will be able count the number

32 **End Graphic**