

## FALSE PROPHET UNITING THE FAITHS

Eschatology- Study of God Devising People  
in His Image  
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### SECOND BEAST – EARTHLY (RE 13:11-18)

- Why does God depict this "beast" arising from the earth?
  - The Second Beast speaks in an earthly way though it may sound like he is speaking of "heavenly things" (Ja 3:16)
  - He legitimizes that which is earthly but should be put to "death", **idolatry** (Ja 5:20-25; 1:14)
    - Sexual immorality (πορνεία)
    - Impurity (ἀκαθαρσία)
    - Passion (πάθος)
    - Evil desire (κακός ἔπιθυμία)
    - Covetousness (πικροψυχία)

### SECOND BEAST – EARTHLY

- He promotes earthly wisdom which resonates with earthly (lost) mankind and has these attributes since this wisdom is actually unspiritual, **demonic** (Ja 3:14-16)
  - Bitter jealousy (πικρός ζήλος)
  - Selfish ambition (ἐπιψυχία)
  - Boastful (κατακαυχᾶσθαι)
  - Lying (ψεύδομαι)
- Outwardly this wisdom promotes disorder and every vile practice

## SECOND BEAST – LAMB

- The lamb imagery
  - Imitates Jesus' gospel
  - Appears harmless; however...
  - Has horns, not harmless
  - Beguiles people with Gnosticism
- Speaks as a dragon
  - Carries the message of Satan
  - Conveys The Lie (2 Th 2:11)



## LAMB SUPPORTS THE FIRST BEAST

- The False Prophet has ONE ministry: Promote the First Beast, who empowers him
  - The False Prophet has no intrinsic power apart from the First Beast
  - He is dedicated to the First Beast as John the Baptist to Jesus
  - Also, he is a dim reflection of Aaron who performed miracles to promote Moses' ministry to lead the Hebrews from Egypt to worship God
  - He will use these Jewish references in a Judaic context during the first 3.5 years
  - The lamb will bring mankind together to worship the first beast through a series of "miracles" performed by demonic powers (Re 13:13)

## LAMB AND MIRACLES – FIRE

- Fire from the skies
  - Imitation of Elijah (2K 1:9-10)
  - Detract from the ministry of the two prophets just as the Egyptian priests duplicated Aaron's early miracles
    - One of whom is in the "spirit of Elijah" just as John the Baptist was not Elijah but came in the spirit of ministry of Elijah (Mt 4:5-4; Mk 2:1-2; Mk 1:7-8; Lk 1:19-21)
    - Fire comes out of their mouths protecting them from their enemies until their time is completed

### LAMB AND MIRACLES – LIVING STATUE

- Under direction of the False Prophet the people make an image (idol) to the First Beast which the people must worship or die (vs 1:42)
- Worship is the glue that binds the government to the people for without their consent governance would be impossible
- Babel provided the example of this successful arrangement that attracted all but Shem and his followers who clung to the truth of God
- This idol speaks and follows the Roman law of honoring the Emperor above your "authorized" religion; this binds the government together (even today-Constitution first)

### LAMB AND MIRACLES – LIVING STATUE

- This idol will be accomplished by "signs" performed by the False Prophet via demonic powers that captivate the people's devotion which will be encouraged by these inducements or penalties:
  - Economics – Economic truths govern material existence, one's worldview determines which economic truths one seeks to implement (free market, statism, etc.)
    - Those who worship believe in a statist commerce will worship the image
    - Those who believe in free markets will not worship the image and face death
      - Slowly if they try to avoid worship and have no commerce – Starvation
      - Quickly because they refuse to worship and are killed immediately

### LAMB AND MIRACLES – LIVING STATUE

- The mark of the beast is
  - His name
  - The number of his name
- The number of man
  - 600 (ἑξακόσιοι)
  - 60 (ἑξήκοντα)
  - 6 (ἕξ)
  - (Some texts have 616)



## NUMBER OF THE BEAST RUN AMOK



## THE KEY IS BEFORE YOUR EYES

- What is the most important aspect of hermeneutical interpretation?
  - Context!
  - The key to understanding is contained in the context, defined by the Bible
  - These passages were written so people of the early centuries could understand them
  - Therefore, the key to understanding is the Bible
  - Otherwise, one is trapped in an allegorical fantasy in which anything is possible (chasing "signs" based on one's own private interpretation and time period)

## HOW I UNDERSTAND THE "MARK" (666)

- The passage tells us the mark is the number of man, so let us see if we can unravel this enigma in a coherent manner based on Scripture
  - One of God's numbers is seven (Completeness)
    - Seven days of creation
    - Seven days in a week
  - Man is made in the image of God, just below God but above angels (eventually)
    - The number of man is 6 who was content until he sinned by eating of the tree of knowledge of good and evil (Gen 3:7)

### HOW I UNDERSTAND THE "MARK" (666)

- The temptation to the Woman, and implied to the Man also was to be as God (Isa 14:14)
  - Thus, through knowledge (wrongfully obtained) mankind was to be as **gods**
  - Mankind has never wavered from this goal which the First Beast, via the False Prophet promises to all who follow him AEB their worship to the image
- First beast proclaims himself as the spirit guide to the true god so all can find their divinity, bypassing the Demiurge (Yahweh), who wants them to remain bound in their materialism
  - The First Beast declares himself in the Temple (abomination of desolation) as the spirit guide, as **god** (Da 9:27; 11:31; 12:10-11; Mt 24:15-23; Mk 13:14-20)

### HOW I UNDERSTAND THE "MARK" (666)

- None of this is possible without the third member – The Dragon, Satan:
  - Who is the "god of this world" who: (Jn 8:44)
    - Binds the minds of the lost
    - Prevents them from seeing the light of the Gospel
    - Keeps them from the glory of Christ Who is the Image of God
  - Who is the "prince of the power of the air" (Ep 2:1-2)
    - Spirit that is now at work in the disobedient living in the passions of their flesh
    - Moving them to carry out the desires of their body and mind (be as gods)

### THE RELATIONSHIP

- Satan is the power behind all unbelief and sin – He is the number less than God but more than man due to his power over man (**6\*10<sup>2</sup>**)
  - **600**
- First beast is then next in power indwelt by Satan and thus more than mere man; in addition, his support by the False Prophet is what brings man to him using the gospel of Satan (**6\*10<sup>1</sup>**)
  - **60**
- Man is the object of Satan's defense though the least in power (**6\*1**)
  - **6**

## UNHOLY TRINITY – FALSE PROPHET THE GLUE



## SEAL OF DESTRUCTION

- Anyone who receives the "mark" will not be saved (Re 14:9-13)
  - Receiving the mark is your declaration of allegiance
  - Yet, it is an outward sign of an inward unregenerate heart hostile to God
- There will be clear examples of people rejecting the mark declaring their allegiance to Christ, this will not be done in secret
  - The angels offer a clear warning
  - Those who reject the mark and die will be seen by Christ

## UNITY THROUGH DIVERSITY – THE WAY

- False prophet does not seek to elevate one current religion over all others
  - Force of arms is not the underlying methodology for unification but he does use it pro
  - False Prophet the commonality Gnosticism has with all religions
    - Symbolism
    - Goals
    - Philosophies
- He brings all religions under the roof of The overarching religion – Gnosticism\*

## REWARD FOR LOYALTY

- At the end of the Great Tribulation when all armies have been defeated at the mountain of Megiddo (Har Megiddo; Armageddon; Valley of Jezreel)
- The first beast and the False Prophet go directly into the Lake of Fire (vs 11:20)
  - No Hell
  - No White Throne Judgment
- When Satan, and his demons, are placed in the Lake of Fire at the end of the Millennial Kingdom, The first beast and the False Prophet are STILL there! (vs 20:10)

