

**REVELATION 13:11-18**

Please turn in your Bibles this evening to Revelation chapter 13 as we continue our study through the Bible.

Last week we began looking at Revelation chapter 13, and as I said last time, this chapter gives to us the description of two beasts.

We covered the first beast last time and we saw that this beast arose from the sea, and we saw that this beast was the Antichrist.

And coming out of the sea was a picture for us that he will rise out of the sea of humanity or the Gentile nations.

Make no mistake about it, he is Jewish but not from the land of Israel but from, I believe, the European communities!

This man, the Antichrist, will rule the world as he heads a 10-kingdom world federation.

Keep in mind that he comes on the scene with the opening of the first seal judgment and he comes on as a man of peace. And it seems that for 3½ years the world will enjoy a time of pseudo-peace.

But then, the last 3½ years of the 7-year Tribulation Period or what is known as the Great Tribulation the world will see his true colors. If you refuse to worship him, you will be put to death!

This evening we will be looking at this second beast that comes from the earth.

Who is this second beast and what is his purpose during the Tribulation Period?

As you will see in our study this evening, this second beast is a key player in seeing the Antichrist rise to power.

Let me share this with you to give you a perspective of what things will be like during this period of time and for that matter, what some of our brothers and sisters in Christ have to endure on a daily basis today.

We are told,

Your life depends on your knowledge of the gospel. Not just your life now, though that is certainly true, but your eternal life depends on your knowledge of the gospel. Are you ready? Do you know the gospel so well that you will stake your life on it?

If someone claimed to be a representative of Christianity but taught that you should do exactly what the Bible says not to do, would you be prepared to dispute his claim to speak for God?

I'm not envisioning Muslim extremists speaking for God – I'm talking about people who claim to be Christians.

If they not only called you to do what the Bible says not to do, but made demands and threatened to kill you if you didn't do them, would you be ready to put your life on the line?

Would you be ready to die because you were certain that the gospel such a person was preaching was not in fact the gospel the Bible teaches? Do you know your Bible well enough to know when someone is telling you to do exactly what the Bible says not to do? And if you do, has the Bible so shaped your convictions that you don't just disregard the Bible but are prepared to be faithful to God even unto death?

We need to be able to tell the difference between God's work and Satan's.

- James M. Hamilton Jr., *Revelation – The Spirit Speaks to the Churches*, p. 267

The problem for us today is so many Christians have no idea what the Bible has to say about living in this world, they are biblically illiterate!

Listen carefully to this and it is from 2021. We are told,

Biblical literacy, for the Christian, is the basic knowledge of the Bible that allows us to grow and function as followers of Christ. For the nonbeliever, it is the background knowledge of America's Judeo-Christian culture built on a biblical worldview.

Here in America only 6% of us now hold a biblical worldview despite 87% of American households having at least one Bible. This seems to indicate why most have a theology an inch deep and a mile wide while failing to understand basics like the importance of Jesus allowing himself to be crucified.

- <https://bit.ly/3kmYaJv>

What a sad state of affairs. If you don't know what you believe, how are you going to take a stand for what is right? You will not be able to, and we see that today with churches and Christians standing up for Antifa, Black Lives Matter, promoting abortion as a woman's right, for promoting the homosexual, lesbian, transgender and whatever immoral activity you can come up with.

How can that be?

Listen carefully because I believe this hits the nail on the head. Biblical literacy advocate Jen Wilkin said, *"Ultimately, we give time to the thing that we love."*

In other words, we are not reading the Bible because we do not love the Word, at least, we do not love the Word more than Instagram, Netflix, school, work or whatever else is filling our days.

Now as we see this going on in the church. As we see all this going on in the world. It can be disheartening. And imagine what it will be like during the Tribulation Period.

But don't lose hope. As one writer put it,

The message of this passage is clear. Let the monstrous beast from the abyss do his worst. Let Satan and his demon hosts have their hour.

God controls the future and believers belong to Him. "In all these things we overwhelmingly conquer through Him who loved us" (Rom. 8:37), and we will triumph on that glorious day when "The kingdom of the world [becomes] the kingdom of our Lord and of His Christ; and He will reign forever and ever" (Revelation 11:15).

- John MacArthur, Revelation 13

May we not lose sight of that fact, the Lord is coming back, and He is going to set up His Kingdom on this earth where righteousness will reign!

With that said, let's begin reading in Revelation chapter 13, beginning in verse 11 and see what the Lord has for us this evening as we study His Word!

## **REVELATION 13**

### **VERSE 11**

Now I am not sure why, but there are those who see this second beast as the Antichrist, others see it as an institution or a form of government, and others see it as the apostate church or even just an ideology.

Make no mistake about it, this second beast is real, and it represents a person!

And just so we are not confused, John tells us that he saw “**another beast**” or ALLOS THERION, (al'-los thay-ree-on) in the Greek.

What John is saying is that this beast has a like nature to the first beast that came out of the sea. And he too will be a “***wild beast***” as the Greek word THERION means!

It is another beast of the same kind as the first beast!

And, as we saw, the first beast came up out of the sea of humanity or the Gentile nations.

But this second beast comes out of the earth, or you might say a man-made religious system, as we will see.

And look at the description of this second beast. We are told that has two horns, which speak of his authority, but also notice that he does not have a crown.

That tells me he is not a political leader as the first beast will be!

I believe the Scriptures point to this beast being the false prophet!

In Revelation 19:20 John tells us, “**Then the beast was captured, and with him the false prophet who worked signs in his presence, by which he deceived those who received the mark of the beast and those who worshiped his image. These two were cast alive into the lake of fire burning with brimstone.**”

We Also see this in Revelation 16:13, showing us that this false prophet is demonically possessed, “**And I saw three unclean spirits like frogs coming out of the mouth of the dragon, out of the mouth of the beast, and out of the mouth of the false prophet.**”

And again, in Revelation, this time Revelation 20:10 we are told, “**The devil, who deceived them, was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone where the beast and the false prophet are. And they will be tormented day and night forever and ever.**”

And here we see the unholy trinity. Keep in mind that Satan wants to be God, he wants to be worshiped as God. So Satan, the dragon, sets himself up as God the Father, but he is not!

The Antichrist, the son of perdition, sets himself up as God the Son, but he is not!

And the False Prophet, he will set himself up as a type of the Holy Spirit, and he is not!

Now let me ask you this question. What is one of the ministries of the Holy Spirit?

The Holy Spirit has come to testify of Jesus, to glorify Him, to bring us to trust in Jesus.

(John 16:7-15)

But the False Prophet will lead people to the worship of the Antichrist and his image and through this they will be worshipping Satan as well!

I hope you see how evil this man is and how evil people are who are doing the same thing.

Now you might be thinking, *“Pastor Joe, people aren’t doing that today, are they?”*

You bet they are!

Way back in 2007 the Dalai Lama visited Chicago. And as you look at this man, his demeanor, he looks like a lamb, right!

Make no mistake about it, he is not a lamb, even though he may look like one. He spoke forth the words of a dragon, bringing forth doctrines of demons!

I know, that seems harsh but if someone is leading you away from Jesus, the Jesus of the Bible and not the Jesus that man has made up in their own minds, then they are speaking forth doctrines of demons, it is as simple as that!

Remember what I said. When we looked at the first beast, he was dreadful, terrifying, but as you read of this beast, he almost seems tame, friendly, but don’t be fooled, he is not!

He will do a lot of talking about loving everyone, but underneath he will be a dangerous beast, just like the first beast - deceiving the whole world and destroying anyone that doesn't go along with what he has said. He appears as a lamb, but he speaks forth the words of the Devil or a dragon!

And I want to dig into this a little more, about his appearance. He looks like a lamb, but he speaks like the Devil.

Remember what Paul said in II Corinthians 11:13-15, "**For such are false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into apostles of Christ. And no wonder! For Satan himself transforms himself into an angel of light. Therefore it is no great thing if his ministers also transform themselves into ministers of righteousness, whose end will be according to their works.**"

You see, appearances can be, and many times are deceiving.

What can we do about that?

We need to listen to the words they are saying and the actions they are doing and compare that with what the Bible has to say. You see, when you do that, it will show you if they are of God or not!

That is Jesus' warning to us in Matthew 7:15-20, "**Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravenous wolves. You will know them by their fruits. Do men gather grapes from thornbushes or figs from thistles? Even so, every good tree bears good fruit, but a bad tree bears bad fruit. A good tree cannot bear bad fruit, nor can a bad tree bear good fruit. Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. Therefore by their fruits you will know them.**"

Jesus is admonishing us to be watchful, to pay attention and especially in the days we are living in!

Now this false prophet comes on the scene to support the politics of the Antichrist and the worship of this man, as we shall see.

It truly is tragic today to see so many Christians taken in by these false prophets who are truly turning the hearts of the people away from the true and living God and towards New Age and Eastern religious activities, and ultimately, people will be turned to the Antichrist during the Tribulation Period!

Folks, this should not be a surprise to us for Jesus warned us in Matthew chapter 24 when He said beginning in verse 24, **“For false christs and false prophets will rise and show great signs and wonders to deceive, if possible, even the elect. See, I have told you beforehand.”**

Matthew 24:24-25.

Just as lying signs and wonders deceive people today, they will also be deceived during the Tribulation Period.

Thus, you need to be fruit inspectors and see what is born from their lives and compare what they are saying to the Bible, and you will clearly see if they are of God or not!

It is as I John 4:1 warns us, **“Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits, whether they are of God; because many false prophets have gone out into the world.”**

The Living Bible puts this verse like this, **“Dearly loved friends, don't always believe everything you hear just because someone says it is a message from God: test it first to see if it really is. For there are many false teachers around.”**

Now John is going to share with us the purpose of the beast or this false prophet, what is the function of his ministry you might say.



VERSE 12

Remember what I said regarding the Holy Spirit. One of the ministries of the Holy Spirit is to draw people to Jesus. Here we see the false prophet draw people to the Antichrist and ultimately the worship of Satan.

Now as hard as that may be to understand, that anyone would worship the Antichrist and then Satan, it can happen so easily. Let me explain it like this. We are told,

It may seem fantastic to some that the world will be led into worship of a man and of the devil.

But by nature, men have an undeniable religious impulse, and they also have an undeniable rebellion against God.

What men want most is not the elimination of religion, but their own religion. They say they want the kingdom, but they don't want God in it.

- David Guzik, Revelation 13

Now what happens to draw people to this man, the Antichrist?

We have talked about this already in our previous study of Revelation chapter 13, but I believe there is one event that will draw people to worship the Antichrist and I believe that event is a false death and resurrection of this first beast, the Antichrist.

As you read the Scriptures, it seems that there is an assassination attempt on the life of the Antichrist.

In Zechariah 11:17 we are told, **“Woe to the worthless shepherd, Who leaves the flock! A sword shall be against his arm And against his right eye; His arm shall completely wither, And his right eye shall be totally blinded.”**

And we see this spoken of in Revelation 13:3-4 as we are told, **“And I saw one of his heads as if it had been mortally wounded, and his deadly wound was healed. And all the world marveled and followed the beast. So they worshiped the dragon who gave authority to the beast; and they worshiped the beast, saying, ‘Who is like the beast? Who is able to make war with him?’”**

Now I don't believe that he is actually dead, but I do believe that for three days he seems to be dead and then life comes back to him. You see, I don't believe that Satan has the power to raise the dead, the Bible says that only God can raise the dead!

But this is going to be so convincing, this counterfeit death and resurrection, that the world will believe it is real. And it is out of this that even more people of this world will begin to worship the beast. They see him as having power over everything, even life and death!

Now think about the battle, the spiritual battle that is going on here.

We see that the 144,000 Jewish witnesses for Christ are sharing the Gospel message. We see that the millions of those who have come to Christ during this period of time sharing the Gospel message. They share that Jesus lived and died for their sins and rose on the third day!

But now this! The world and especially this false prophet, are pointing people to the Antichrist, to worship him as he did the same thing that Jesus did, but he didn't!

And it is out of that they worship him as God because if he is acting as Jesus, dying and then rising from the dead, then he must be God! No, he is not! But the deception is great, and it is growing!

VERSES 13-14

Let me start off by sharing these words from Jesus in Matthew 24:24-25, and yes we have read them already but it is important for us to look at this again. Now, even though this is a warning for the Tribulation Period, make no mistake about it, these things are going on today as well, they just will intensify as the Tribulation Period gets closer.

Jesus warned us by saying, **“For false christs and false prophets will rise and show great signs and wonders to deceive, if possible, even the elect. See, I have told you beforehand.”**

God does warn us and many times we refuse to listen to His warning!

If Satan and his workers can transform themselves into angels of light, then they can also deceive people with signs and wonders and they do!

Here we are told that this beast is able to do **“great signs”** so all the earth dwellers can see.

Now what do signs do?

Think about it. You are traveling I-43 and the sign says, *“Sheboygan 22 miles.”*

In other words, signs point you to something.

And that word **“performs”** is the Greek word POIEO and it speaks of a repeated action.

That means that this false prophet will do many signs, many miracles. Thus, the lie of these miracles is there to draw people away from the true and living God so that they will worship Satan and the Antichrist.

But, instead of finding life, they will find death and destruction!

It is as Seiss tells us, *“There is a supernatural power which is against God and truth, as well as one for God and truth. A miracle, simply as a work of wonder, is not necessarily of God. There has always been devilish supernaturalism in the world, running alongside of the supernaturalism of Divine Grace and Salvation.”*

Tragically, today in the church we see Christians running after signs and wonders instead of allowing God to work in and through them and allowing signs and wonders to follow after them!

In fact, some Christians think, *“You can really know where God is and where His power is by signs and wonders.”*

With that mentality, they are opening themselves up to be deceived!

Listen to the warning that God gives to us in Deuteronomy 13:1-5, **“If there arises among you a prophet or a dreamer of dreams, and he gives you a sign or a wonder, and the sign or the wonder comes to pass, of which he spoke to you, saying, ‘Let us go after other gods’ - which you have not known - ‘and let us serve them,’ you shall not listen to the words of that prophet or that dreamer of dreams, for the LORD your God is testing you to know whether you love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul. You shall walk after the LORD your God and fear Him, and keep His commandments and obey His voice; you shall serve Him and hold fast to Him. But that prophet or that dreamer of dreams shall be put to death, because he has spoken in order to turn you away from the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt and redeemed you from the house of bondage, to entice you from the way in which the LORD your God commanded you to walk. So you shall put away the evil from your midst.”**

I guess that was a way to cut down on false prophets in those days, today many churches invite them into their pulpits to teach!

Keep in mind that a miracle does not mean it is of God, you need to understand that. And the key, of course, is that if it doesn't draw you to Jesus, if He is not the focus, if it does not cause you to worship Him, if it is not biblical, then it is not of God!

Secondly, miracles don't save people, Jesus does!

You see, God tells us in Isaiah 42:8, **"I am the LORD, that is My name; And My glory I will not give to another, Nor My praise to carved images."**

Case closed!

Listen carefully to this. Jesus said that John the Baptist was the greatest prophet born.  
(Matthew 11:11)

But did you realize that he never did one miracle, not even one. (John 10:41)

Then why did Jesus make such a big deal of this man?

Because John brought people the truths of God found in the Word of God, he brought them to Jesus, the Messiah, their Savior!

It is as Paul said, **"So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God."**  
Bring people to Jesus by the power of God's Word!

Then why did Jesus do so many miracles?

Remember when John the Baptist was placed in prison and he began to doubt if Jesus was the Messiah, he began to doubt God's Word and in Matthew 11:2-6 we are told, "**And when John had heard in prison about the works of Christ, he sent two of his disciples and said to Him, 'Are You the Coming One, or do we look for another?' Jesus answered and said to them, 'Go and tell John the things which you hear and see: The blind see and the lame walk; the lepers are cleansed and the deaf hear; the dead are raised up and the poor have the gospel preached to them. And blessed is he who is not offended because of Me.'**"

You see, the miracles Jesus did were to authenticate His ministry because He was doing what was prophesied in the Old Testament. He fulfilled what the prophet's spoke regarding his ministry.

I am not saying that there are no miracles that God is doing today. He still does miracles, but we see so often the foolishness of man to pretend or be deceived by false miracles and it is only going to get worse!

Then what are we to do?

We are to seek after the Lord, and then signs and wonders will follow after you, wherever you go!

Don't put the cart in front of the horse. You do what God has called you to do and allow Him to do what He needs to do!

Here in Revelation 13:14 John gives to us the instrument by which the antichrist will be attacked with and receive this so-called deadly blow.

John tells us it is the "**sword**" or *MACHARIA* in the Greek, which speaks of a dagger or a small sword.

It is this weapon that blinds his right eye and paralyzes one of his arms according to what we read in Zechariah 11:17.

Again, I believe it is this pseudo death and resurrection that will draw the masses to worship this man.

Let me give you one example of how masses can follow a man because of his charismatic nature.

There is a man in Miami who claims to be God and he has thousands of followers who give their money to him.

He has a tattoo 666 on his arm.

This is what the people are being told, and keep in mind that this Jesus died in 2013 and did not rise from the dead. In other words, he was not and is not God, but again, people have followed him, and it is a very strange cult, to say the least! This is what we are told.

***“The Antichrist is not the devil; de Jesus tells his congregation; he’s the being who replaces Jesus on Earth. ‘Antichrist is the best person in the world,’ he says. ‘Antichrist means don’t put your eyes on Jesus because Jesus of Nazareth wasn’t a Christian. Antichrist means do not put your eyes on Jesus of Nazareth. Put it on Jesus after the cross.’ And de Jesus says that means him.”***

He has a following in over 30 countries – do you see how easy it is for people to be deceived to worship anyone!

The only way we can know the truth is going back to the source, the Word of God and that will expose the lies.

This man is not God, not because I said so, even though I do, but because the Bible tells me so!

Thus, to see the world bow before this man, the Antichrist, is not too difficult. He solves the world's problems of war, famine, pestilence, ecological problems, monetary problems and-so-on.

He even has this pseudo death and resurrection. And if that is not enough, the false prophet will put together this image of the beast and demand the world to bow before it, pay homage to it, as unto the Antichrist.

What is this image all about?

We will see that in a minute.

One last point here and that is dealing with those who are being deceived by the beast out of the sea or the Antichrist and the beast out of the earth or the false prophet.

John tells us that it is **“those who dwell on the earth”** who will be deceived by them, they are earth dwellers, unbelievers.

You see, those who get saved during the Tribulation Period are not earth dwellers, for this is not their home just as it is not our home. They are aliens and strangers, pilgrims just passing through as we are told by Paul in Philippians 3:20, **“For our citizenship is in heaven, from which we also eagerly wait for the Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ.”**

Why are we waiting for the return of Jesus, for Him to appear?

Because we are told that it is He **“who will transform our lowly body that it may be conformed to His glorious body, according to the working by which He is able even to subdue all things to Himself.”** Philippians 3:21.

We long for that day, the Rapture and they will long for his Second Coming when He will come to establish His Kingdom on this earth!

And now we will look at this image of the beast in which the False Prophet brings to life!



VERSE 15

Think about the impossibility of this statement some 2000 years ago, or even 1000 years ago, or 500 years ago, or even 50 years ago. And yet, today this is getting closer to being a possibility.

Now let me say this. We don't know for sure what this all entails, but I am going to share with you what I think is going on.

It may be speaking of some kind of computer with artificial intelligence. Or, it maybe even more than that.

Maybe some of you have heard of this, maybe not, but I do think this is a strong possibility.

Scientists have been working on merging human consciousness with a machine or computer. It is a process called – *SINGULARITY!*

We talked about this before at one of our prophecy updates, but the technology for this is getting closer and closer!

Another name for this, and maybe a more familiar one, is – *CYBERNETIC TRANSHUMANISM.*

What that means is they are combining a human body with a machine or a human mind with a machine!

Maybe some of you remember the old television show Six Million Dollar Man that combined machine parts with human parts, like eyes, arms or legs.

Another one is the movie, Robocop, that did the same thing but this time it also controlled his mind.

And if you remember ***THE BORG*** from *Star Trek the Next Generation*, that is what they did also, combining human and machine parts together and all these creatures became part of the collective, they did not have the ability to think on their own.

I don't think that this will be something that is used on every person on this planet because then they would not have a free will. But it may be something like that when a person takes the Mark of the Beast because then they can't be saved, and this occurs around the half-way point of the seven-year Tribulation Period.

But maybe this is what the False Prophet will do to give life to the image of the beast, a human consciousness downloaded into a computer or some kind of human body! It is possible and many are working to achieve something like this.

Let me share this with you and you will see what I mean. This article, "***No death and an enhanced life: Is the future transhuman?***" was written in 2018 and this is what it said,

The aims of the transhumanist movement are summed up by Mark O'Connell in his book ***To Be a Machine***, which last week won the Wellcome Book prize. "***It is their belief that we can and should eradicate ageing as a cause of death; that we can and should use technology to augment our bodies and our minds; that we can and should merge with machines, remaking ourselves, finally, in the image of our own higher ideals.***"

The idea of technologically enhancing our bodies is not new. But the extent to which transhumanists take the concept is. In the past, we made devices such as wooden legs, hearing aids, spectacles and false teeth.

In future, we might use implants to augment our senses so we can detect infrared or ultraviolet radiation directly or boost our cognitive processes by connecting ourselves to memory chips.

Ultimately, by merging man and machine, science will produce humans who have vastly increased intelligence, strength, and lifespans; a near embodiment of gods. . . .

This last point is a particular issue for those concerned with the transhumanist movement. They believe that modern technology ultimately offers humans the chance to live for aeons, unshackled – as they would be – from the frailties of the human body.

Failing organs would be replaced by longer-lasting high-tech versions just as carbon-fibre blades could replace the flesh, blood and bone of natural limbs. Thus we would end humanity's reliance on "our frail version 1.0 human bodies into a far more durable and capable 2.0 counterpart," as one group has put it. . . .

Ultimately, adherents of transhumanism envisage a day when humans will free themselves of all corporeal restraints. Kurzweil and his followers believe this turning point will be reached around the year 2030, when biotechnology will enable a union between humans and genuinely intelligent computers and AI systems.

The resulting human-machine mind will become free to roam a universe of its own creation, uploading itself at will on to a "suitably powerful computational substrate". We will become gods, or more likely "star children" similar to the one at the end of *2001: A Space Odyssey*.

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As crazy as it sounds, that is the direction that they are moving towards, and I believe that this image of the beast can be a ***SINGULARITY*** or ***CYBERNETIC TRANSHUMANISM***.

Let me give you a few examples to show you how close we are to achieving this technology. And this is from some 16 years ago and thus, we are even farther down the road to this technology today.

This is from the UK, March 31, 2005, Brain Chip Reads Man's Thoughts. We are told,

A paralyzed man in the US has become the first person to benefit from a brain chip that reads his mind. Matthew Nagle, 25, was left paralyzed from the neck down and confined to a wheelchair after a knife attack in 2001. The pioneering surgery at New England Sinai Hospital, Massachusetts, last summer means he can now control everyday objects by thought alone.

The brain chip reads his mind and sends the thoughts to a computer to decipher. . . .

Studies have shown that monkeys can control a computer with electrodes implanted into their brain. Recently four people, two of them partly paralyzed wheelchair users, were able to move a computer cursor while wearing a cap with 64 electrodes that pick-up brain waves.

Mr. Nagle's device, called BrainGate, consists of nearly 100 hair-thin electrodes implanted a millimeter deep into part of the motor cortex of his brain that controls the brain signals. . . . He said there were millions of neurons in the brain involved with movement. The brain chip taps into only a very small number of these. But he said the work was extremely exciting.

- UK, March 31, 2005, Brain Chip Reads Man's Thoughts

This is from the BBC News Online, March 24, 2004, Brain Waves Control Video Game,

A video game in which the character is controlled directly from a player's brain without the need for wires has been developed by researchers. Mind Balance was demonstrated for the first time using a new wireless headset, at the MIT Media Lab Europe in Dublin last month.

Research laboratories around the world have been working on technologies which let people "jack in" to computers directly from their brains, including Cyberkinetics, whose BrainGate system is currently undergoing trials.

But the Mind Balance game demonstration showed how brain activity could be harnessed and used without the need for plugs, jacks or wires. Instead of wires, it uses direct electroencephalography (EEG), cerebral data nodes and the wireless technology – Bluetooth – all fitted into the sophisticated Cerebus headset.

"One of the obvious applications is for someone who is locked in or paralyzed completely, somebody who has an advanced case of ALS [Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis], where they literally cannot communicate at all, but their brain is operating fine. They can still see and hear but can't move or speak. If we had a direct link from their brain to their computer, they could communicate."

- BBC News Online, March 24, 2004, Brain Waves Control Video Game

You see, the technology is here, and it is growing fast. I don't believe we will see this come to pass before the Rapture of the church, but shortly afterwards, during the Great Tribulation the false prophet will breathe life into this image and for those who will not worship the image of the beast, they will be put to death!

And what is interesting to me is that this is not a new idea. The first commentary we have on the Book of Revelation, written by Victorinus in the early church, says of Revelation 13:15:

***“He shall cause also that a golden image of Antichrist shall be placed in the temple at Jerusalem, and that the apostate angel should enter, and thence utter voices and oracles.”***

Could this be the merging of the human mind with AI, a computer system? I think it could be.

In Daniel chapter 3 we see King Nebuchadnezzar set up a golden image to be worshiped and anyone who refused to bow and worship this image was put to death!

And like the image in Daniel chapter 3 being in direct opposition to God, so too is the image that is set-up here in Revelation chapter 13.

As the Antichrist establishes a one-world government, we will see that the false prophet establishes a one-world religion that gives power to the beast, to the Antichrist.

Again, tragically we see the church of Jesus Christ compromising her faith and being seduced by seductive spirits and moving away from the truths of God found in the Word of God.

This will allow the church to unite with the religions of the world once Jesus is removed out of the way, the true Jesus that is.

You see, the Bible tells us that Jesus is the only way to the Father, the only way to salvation and that is not open for debate.

Thus, Jesus must be removed and a mentality that all roads lead to God must be adopted, and tragically this is already happening in the church today! And it will only get worse.

VERSES 16-17

Let me start out by saying this and it will help set the stage for what is being spoken of here, a cashless society.

There was a man who lived under Bulgaria's communist regime, and this is what he had to say, *"You cannot understand and you cannot know that the most terrible instrument of persecution ever devised is an innocent ration card. You cannot buy and you cannot sell except according to that little, innocent card. If they please, you can be starved to death, and if they please, you can be dispossessed of everything you have; for you cannot trade, and you cannot buy and you cannot sell, without permission."* (Cited in W. A. Criswell, Expository Sermons on Revelation, 4:120-21).

Again, 2000 years ago, 1000 years ago, 500 years ago, even 50 years ago this would have been impossible, but today it is not.

In fact, there has been a push for this system for a while now.

Listen to this story from the San Jose Mercury, dated August 8, 1975. This story speaks of a proposal by Dr. Henry Alderman of the European Common market Confederacy in Brussels. And yes, it did not come to pass yet, but this is what the future holds, during the Tribulation Period, some system like this to number the people and keep tabs on them. We are told,

*"The massive plan involves a digital number system for every human being on earth. A computer would assign each citizen of the world a number that would be invisibly laser tattooed on the forehead or the back of the hand. It would provide a walking credit card system. The number would show up on infrared scanners and be placed at all checkout counters and places of business. By using this three, six digit unit the entire world can be assigned a working number. An international mark that would do away with all currency or*

*coin instead of credit notes exchanged through a world fixing system. Nobody could buy or sell without this digital marking system on them. One man can have at his fingertips the number of any man on earth. When one of the market leaders was asked what would happen if anyone objected to this system and refused to co-operate, he replied rather pointedly, 'We would have to use force to make him conform to the requirements.'*"

Please understand what we see today is only a foreshadowing of what will take place and what we just read is outdated all ready.

And keep in mind that this system will at first be voluntary and then it will be mandatory if you want to buy or sell anything! And this will affect all classes of people, all races; none are exempt from receiving this mark.

And this mark, CHARAGMA in the Greek, speaks of a brand or seal that will be placed upon the person's right hand or forehead.

From the wording, it would seem that this mark will be on the outside of the person to visibly see. And that may also reflect an inward microchip that is implanted as well, but that is not what this word for "**mark**" means. Maybe this mark will be able to track as well!

Today we have microchips that can track a person. Let me share this with you because what this is now may be reduced to some kind of tattoo or mark on the skin in the future that will be doing the same thing and probably more. And this was around many years ago and today, it has even developed more.

On May 13, 1997, a patent was granted for a "**personal tracking and recovery system,**" and on December 10, 1999, Applied Digital Solutions acquired the patent rights to this technology and the name of this digital transceiver is "**Digital Angel.**" Now what are some of the applications of this device? Listen carefully?



1. ***IT CAN BE USED TO MONITOR PATIENTS' VITAL SIGNS AND ANALYZE THEM.***
2. ***IT CAN BE IMPLANTED IN CATTLE AND OTHER LIVESTOCK TO TRACK THE HEALTH AND LOCATION OF THESE ANIMALS.***
3. ***IT CAN BE USED TO TRACK PEOPLE THAT HAVE BEEN KIDNAPPED.***
4. ***IT CAN BE USED TO TRACK SOLDIERS AND MONITOR THEIR VITAL SIGNS AND IT CAN GIVE CRUCIAL INFORMATION TO THE MILITARY LEADERS.***
5. ***IT CAN BE USED TO MONITOR PEOPLE WHO ARE ON PAROLE, UNDER HOUSE ARREST, AND-SO-ON.***
6. ***IT CAN BE USED IN THE ACCESSING OF FIREARMS IN THAT ONLY THE OWNER OF THE GUN WOULD BE ABLE TO FIRE THE WEAPON, IT WOULDN'T FIRE IF YOU DIDN'T HAVE THE RIGHT IDENTIFICATION.***
7. ***AND IT IS ONLY A SHORT STEP UNTIL THIS IS USED FOR THE BUYING AND SELLING OF THINGS, LIKE YOU WOULD USE A CREDIT CARD.***

Interestingly enough, *“When implanted in the body, the device is powered electromagnetically through the movement of muscles, and it can be either activated by the wearer or by the monitoring facility.”* I think we call that ***“BIG BROTHER!”***

Maybe some of you have seen that commercial that was on several years ago where this young man walks into the store with this trench coat on, and he just looks like a troublemaker.

And all of sudden he starts grabbing things from the shelves and placing them inside his coat.

Like I said, a troublemaker.

And people are watching him, and as he begins to leave the store he catches the eye of the security guard, and you think he has had it now.

And as he is leaving the store, he grabs a newspaper and just walks out. He didn't pay for anything!

We then see the security guard and he is on the move. He is going after this young man. And as the security guard leaves the store he grabs a piece of paper, and as he reaches this young man, he says something to the effect, ***“Sir, you forgot your receipt!”***

You see, he was either carrying a chip or a card that automatically debited his account and as he walked out the door of the store all the items that he placed in his coat were charged to him! The technology was not ready when this aired but today, we are there! We have come a long way since John wrote these words!

As currency is band the only way you will be able to survive is to receive this mark but in doing so you are pledging your allegiance to the Antichrist and denying the living and true God and because of that you will be lost forever!

Please understand that the Covid shot is not the Mark of the Beast. I heard one Bible teacher say that it is the Mark of the Beast, but it is not activated yet. He went on to say those who are Christians and have received the Covid shot are okay because it is not until it is activated in Revelation chapter 13 that then you can't be saved. And thus, we will be raptured before that happens!

That is wrong on so many levels.

First of all, if the Covid shot is the Mark of the Beast, it doesn't matter if it is activated or not, you can't be saved!

Listen what we are told in Revelation 14:9-11, **“Then a third angel followed them, saying with a loud voice, ‘If anyone worships the beast and his image, and receives his mark on his forehead or on his hand, he himself shall also drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is poured out full strength into the cup of His indignation. He shall be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels and in the presence of the Lamb. And the smoke of their torment ascends forever and ever; and they have no rest day or night, who worship the beast and his image, and whoever receives the mark of his name.’”**

I don't see any stipulation there for when it is taken, this Mark! If you receive it, you can't be saved!

Now don't freak out if you have taken the vaccine, it is not the Mark of the Beast. Whoever receives this Mark of the Beast is not going to be tricked into getting it.

Think about that for a minute. If that were true you could be tricked and take the Mark and then not be able to get into heaven.

No, this is a willful decision to worship the Antichrist and ultimately Satan and that is why once you take the Mark of the Beast, at the half-way mark of the Tribulation Period, you can't be saved!

Now why does this exclude you from being saved? A mass murderer can be saved, so what is so different with this Mark of the Beast?

Like I have said, it is a willful decision to worship the Antichrist and ultimately Satan himself.

But maybe there is another link here. Remember the technology that we talked about and maybe this will link the person to the image of the Beast once they take the Mark and maybe that is the other reason they can't be saved as they have linked themselves to the Antichrist and Satan!

It is a possibility!

I hope that clears things up for those that have been confused by that teaching.

### VERSE 18

It is amazing the predictions of who this beast is by trying to calculate this number 666 to their name.

From Nero to Caligula, Domitian, Napoleon, Hitler, Mussolini, Stalin, Kennedy, Ronald Wilson Regan and a host of others.

I don't know if you remember this from years ago, but the claim that Michael Gorbachev was the Antichrist! Do you know why? Because of the birthmark on the top of his head, they said it resembled a dragon!

Now think about this, why do we as Christians spend so much time trying to figure out who this man is instead of looking for the God-Man Jesus Christ who is coming back for us?

Yes, John says, "**Here is wisdom. . . .**" but understand that knowledge is information and wisdom is applying that information to your life. May we apply what we know and walk accordingly!

In Greek, Hebrew and Latin the letters have numerical equivalents, and this numbering system is called gematria.

Here the Antichrist's name is 666, what does that mean?

First of all, 7 speaks of completion or perfection.

The number 8 speaks of new beginnings, Jesus!

The number 6 speaks of man or that he is incomplete!

Thus, the triple six tells me that no matter how many 6's you place after this man, he still falls far short of perfection, he is just a man!

Another way to look at this is that this is the unholy trinity, and it is imperfect – 666, as compared to the Holy Trinity, which is perfect – 777!

As I conclude this evening think about what we have seen in this chapter.

We have seen the emergence of the false Christ who unites the world into a one-world government – ***THE ANTICHRIST!***

And we have also seen the emergence of the ***FALSE PROPHET*** who unites the world into a one-world religion and causes the masses to worship the beast and his image.

And for those that don't they will be put to death, and for those that do, they will spend eternity in the Lake of Fire separated from God!

I do understand that there are those Christians who believe we will make this world better and better and then the Lord will return.

That is a nice thought, but it is not Scriptural. This world will not become Christian, but the end time church will be apostate, satanic and blasphemous to the true and living God!

Then what are we to do?

We are to rescue as many as we can from this world so they can be translated from the kingdom of darkness to the kingdom of God!

Don't lose sight of that fact because folks, we are **“looking for the blessed hope and glorious appearing of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ, who gave Himself for us, that He might redeem us from every lawless deed and purify for Himself His own special people, zealous for good works. Speak these things, exhort, and rebuke with all authority. Let no one despise you.”** Titus 2:13-15.

Keep looking upward and keep sharing your faith and don't be ashamed of the Gospel message, for it is the power of God unto salvation for all who believe!

### **Technology!**



James Young had an accident that left him a double amputee, so he turned to bionics to redesign his body. With funding from video game giant Konami, prosthetic sculptor Sophie De Oliveira Barata created him a bionic arm that's fitted with a 3D-printed hand that's controlled via sensors that detect muscle movements in James's back. The arm also boasts a USB charger, Twitter connectivity, a torch, a heart monitor and a small drone.