

Anti-Christ of Revelation & (His Mark) - III

(S374R 0724 24W)

Part II of the message on this subject described a woman sitting on a scarlet-colored beast with seven heads (representing seven hills on which the woman sits, indicating Rome as was always known as the seven hilled city and seat of the Roman Catholic Church), as well as representing seven Roman emperors. It also described ten horns on the beast which represent ten kingdoms that will be in place during the time of the Anti-Christ's reign, and who will have supreme control over the inhabitants of a wicked world via a worldwide union. The control of labor unions of this day was compared to that worldwide union in the end times (and how a person cannot be part of a union or club, that would keep them from placing full trust and dependance on God).

It was explained that the same principle of misplacing trust on some thing or person other than God, is why the Hebrew children would not bow down to an emperor's golden image, and they were fully protected by God from the fury of fire and death.

(To continue with the message)

The God who saved them from the burning furnace (and brought them out without the smell of fire on their clothing), is the same God we are to serve today, (and anyone else who will take the same stand as they did) (that is, not to misplace our trust on some plan other than trusting on God),... will be delivered by God (as the Hebrew children were delivered by Him).

Their example can enable us to recall Adam's sin, when Satan did deceive and rob him and his wife, of God and of everything else that He had for them in the Garden of Eden. Satan persuaded them to

start out on their own, to separate themselves from trusting in God, to disobey Him and become their own god, where they would know as much as God did and be able to do as much as He. That was the bait that Satan offered them, but what it really meant was that they would be trusting on a human plan and power, instead of on a divine plan and power.

The moment Adam and Eve accepted Satan's plan, it gave him possession of their lives and control over them. The terrible tragedy that happened in their home (of one son murdering the other, when they only had two sons), was just one of the fruits of listening to Satan, and of starting to trust in themselves. They also lost the image of God; they lost all conception of God; they lost all faith in God, and became (as mentioned), under the control of Satan with only the power to trust in themselves or some other human.

The thing we all need to realize is that Satan has never changed. From the day he deceived Adam up to this present time, his one object has been to get people to trust in man instead of trusting God, whether it be themselves or some other man or a plan or device designed by man under Satan's control. The whole object of these plans devised by humans (as inspired by Satan's control over them), is man's efforts to find the measure of happiness that he had in the Garden of Eden. That is the object of all human efforts in the entire world since the fall of Adam. In other words, to make a Garden of Eden for ourselves by our own efforts (instead of by trusting in God).

For us to have an understanding, of how Satan fooled Adam, and tries his best to fool everyone else since and up to and into this Gospel Age, by forcing them to trust in man and on his devices (and many modern day deceitful plans that can tempt us to misplace our trust away from God) that understanding will enable us (with the guidance of the Holy Spirit) to detect the cloven foot of Satan (in any plan that he brings up). We will be enabled to realize that Satan's plans will always have this same mark embedded in them, that is, trusting in something or somebody besides trusting

the living God for the things we need or desire in this present life that we live.

(MP) When a certain thing or plan, or a certain attraction is widely accepted and embraced by the world in general, that in itself should be a sure warning to true believers, who want to do and stay in God's will in their life (and a warning for them to beware of Satan's influence on that issue). We are told (1 Thess, 5:22) avoid even the appearance of evil, so we need to consider whether something has the devil's stamp on it or not, and always give God the benefit of any doubt in all things and circumstances by putting His Word and will first in our life, so that, we do not conform any longer to the pattern or plan of this world.

The 'Gospel Age' will close with another supreme effort of Satan to force people to trust in the beast of Revelation. The sin Adam committed that wrecked the world (as well as he and his family), was simply to stop trusting in God and to start to trust in himself. That is the root of every sin that has ever been committed, and every human being born since Adam's fall, has been born in his image (and mind-set), obsessed with the idea that they can get what they would like to have in this life, by their own human plans and efforts (instead of by trust on God).

That is the sin of sins (the late Pastor said), and it makes no difference what form that self-effort may take, however good it may look to eyes of humans, when God is left out of the plan to get what we want to have, it looks exactly the same in God's eyes, wicked, devilish, and wholly destructive spiritually.

The same principle is involved in the Social Security Act, which is to deceive us to trust on an Old Age Pension from the Government insurance plan after one reaches age sixty-five, instead trusting on the living God after reaching that age.

It is exactly the same with 'unemployment insurance' (the Pastor said), and all other forms of 'insurance'-fire, life, accident, automobile, and many other Satan-inspired evil laid up money plans' to be depended on, instead of depending on the living God alone. The laws concerning

'medical vaccination' in most States are identical with the mark of the beast, and it is the same devil in back of it, as was back of Nebuchadnezzar's golden image. The laws say that if we do not trust in a vaccine virus instead of trusting the living God, our children cannot be educated in the public schools. This is not nearly so severe a penalty as death for not accepting the mark of the beast, because for anyone who would refuse to obey the vaccination law, God would surely find a way for their children to be educated (as He has done for the work of the Truth here and in West Africa), or to have a private tutor (if one would desire to do so).

Therefore, to disobey God's Word and trust in vaccination for protection from smallpox, or for the sake of being educated in a public school, seems to be a worse sin than the mark of the beast, because the penalty is not nearly so great.

The Pastor also offered the opinion that where vaccination had been done in ignorance of Scripture and has been truly repented of and never done again, we cannot see why there could not be a full forgiveness and cleansing from that mistake.

To have a clear 'understanding' of how Satan fooled Adam, and still tries his best to trick everyone else since then (and up to and into this Gospel Age), by forcing them to trust in man and on his devices (and many deceitful modern day plans to tempt us to misplace our trust away from God) that understanding (received by those who choose to believe and trust on God) will enable them (with guidance of the Holy Spirit) to detect the cloven foot of Satan (in any plan that he brings up). We will be enabled to realize that Satan's plans will always have that same mark embedded in them, that is, trusting in something or somebody besides the living God for the things we need or desire in this present life.

Jesus Christ (who has been referred to as the 'second Adam'), has restored everything to us that we lost through the sin of the 'first Adam'. That is, restoration of the image of God, the righteousness and peace that Adam had in the Garden of Eden, the

perfect health and protection of our bodies, the fullness of blessing financially and in all other things, have all been restored by the sacrificial offering that Jesus Christ made for us on the Cross at Calvary when we make the choice to trust on the Word and Promises of God, instead of on plans and efforts of man.

All these blessings are to be received by reversing what the first Adam did, and that means to refuse to listen to Satan's lies and suggestions or those of his agents, fallen man. Rather, we are to choose to accept and follow God's Word, which always teaches (and points us by Bible examples) to trust in God instead of fallen man and his plans and devices.

The Holy Spirit has been sent into this world to guide and lead us into all Truth (John 16:13 tells us). That means, for us to find out, believe, and obey what God says in His Word, which is no more nor less than trusting fully and Holy in the ever-living God for what we need and desire in this present life. The real reward received is a real and true preparation by the Holy Spirit in our life of trust, that is necessary for Eternal Life.

Anyone who will sincerely confess and forsake their sins will receive a full pardon and cleansing (as promised 1 John 1:9).

Anyone who will surrender their life fully to God, for His will and Word to be followed in their life without reservation, will be taken possession of by the Holy Spirit and have fulfilled in their life what Jesus said (Matt. 11:28-30) "Come to me, all you toiling and burdened ones, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me; for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For it is good to bear my yoke, and my burden is light." Take my yoke upon you, Jesus said, which means that if we choose to be yoked to Him, we will be enabled to follow Him in a life of trust wherever He will take us, and He promises that He will make our burden light. His yoke will not allow us to go our own way, to trust on other things and people. It is like two oxen yoked together to go the same direction.

The apostle Paul also entreated us

not to conform to this world, but to surrender our life fully to God, who promises to teach and lead us into His perfect will, (Rom. 12:1-2) "I plead with you therefore, brethren, by the compassion of God, to present all your faculties to Him as a living and holy sacrifice acceptable to Him. This with you will be an act of reasonable worship. And do not follow the customs of the present age, (be conformed to this world), but be transformed by the entire renewal of your minds, (meaning, be delivered from the sinful nature of fallen man since Adam) Also that you may learn by experience what God's will is, that will which is good and beautiful and perfect."

In reality, these promises mean that we can have all the good things that God created for man to enjoy in the Garden of Eden, and have that restored in our individual lives if we will choose to return our life to God by submitting ourselves to know and follow His Word and plan without compromising our faith on God (as the Hebrew children and other true believers did in their life). We must decide against depending on false places of trust and the various plans of man such as labor unions, medical vaccination, insurance, and other plans that are forerunners to the mark of the beast and the worldwide union that will be set up to force people to depend on the Anti-Christ (or to be killed because they won't receive 'the mark of his name') (but, to become a martyr for Jesus Christ).(Rev.20:4-6).

A similar principal of misplaced trust on man is involved with joining groups in savings and rewards clubs, purchasing club plans, etc., to use their cards and numbers or marks to make purchases (being offered by many companies and businesses in this day), rather than keeping a full trust centered on God to provide for things as needed. These plans being offered to people would seem to be forerunners to decisions that will have to be made by everyone to keep their trust centered on God when the Anti-Christ's 'world-wide union' is put in place to deceive people.

Instead, by returning our life to God and submitting ourselves to know and do His will, we can then be made perfectly happy and victorious in everything, be protected from the great tribulation and the 'mark of the beast'. Best of all, we will escape that terrible Lake of Fire and be truly prepared for Eternal Life. (Rev.20:4-6) "And I saw thrones, and some who were seated on them, to whom judgment was entrusted. And I saw the souls of those who had been beheaded on account of the testimony that they had borne to Jesus and on account of God's Message, and also the souls of those who had not worshipped the Wild Beast or his statue, nor received his mark on their foreheads or on their hands; and they came to Life and were kings with Christ for a thousand years. No one else who was dead rose to Life until the thousand years were at an end. This is the First Resurrection. Blessed and holy are those who share in the First Resurrection. The Second Death has no power over them, but they shall be priests to God and to Christ and shall be kings with Christ for the thousand years."]

The question would naturally arise in one's mind, "Why is Satan permitted to deceive such vast numbers of people?" The answer is given (2 Thess. 2:9) "The coming of the *lawless one*" (that means the anti-Christ and accepting the mark of his name and number to buy and sell in order to survive, or to be killed for not signing on to his number to buy things as needed) is according to the working of Satan,(vs.10-12) and with all unrighteous deception among those who perish, because they did not receive the love of the truth, that they might be saved. And for this reason, God will send them a strong delusion, that they should believe the lie, that they all may be condemned who did not believe the truth but had pleasure in unrighteousness.

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