

Behold | Sermons through the Revelation

Sermon #26 | Revelation 13:5-10 | The Antichrist, Part 2

Revelation 13:5-6 | The Antichrist's Power of Speech

- At the beginning, the people were impressed at the war-hero status of the beast.
- As it progresses, it is **given unto him** to have great speaking abilities.
 - Since the dragon **gave power unto the beast**, it is likely a safe presumption that he also gave the speaking abilities.
 - He spoke **great things** – an adjective. Literally, “to speak greatness.” Likely refers both to manner and content of his speech. See Psalm 55:21.
 - He also spoke **blasphemies against God**.
 - Since he wants to take the place of God on the throne, his blasphemy must not be “anti-god” (i.e.: atheism), but rather anti-Jehovah.
 - He speaks against **his tabernacle**.
 - This is the only time in the book of Revelation that this word is used. However, John uses the word *temple* 16 times. It would be odd for this to be a reference to the temple, especially considering that the antichrist will sit in the temple to be worshiped.
 - However, **the secret place of the most high** (ps. 91) would fit the context and the grammar. The beast is incensed that he cannot get into *the tent* in which the Jews are protected.
 - He also speaks against **them that dwell in heaven**. This also likely has to do with his hatred for anything related to Jehovah.
 - He carries out this blasphemy for 42 months – the last half of the tribulation.

Revelation 13:7 | The One World Leader

- Satan *offered* the kingdoms of the world to the Messiah, but He would not take them. The Antichrist will take the offer and receive these kingdoms.
- The creation of a *one-word order* (globalism) will bring a long-held desire of man to fruition. From Nimrod and the Tower of Babel to Hitler and the Third Reich, up through modern movements, *globalism* is and always has been a satanic agenda. It *assumes* the presence of a Messiah and thus always establishes an *anti-Messiah*.

- No nation will be free from the reign of the Antichrist, but the focus of the Antichrist will be the destruction of the Jewish people (who by nature of their faith will not worship the beast nor the dragon).
- Note that "the saints" is the Jewish nation of believers, not "anyone who is a Christian." Note also that the Antichrist will *overcome them*. That is, those who are not in the shelter of the most high.

Revelation 13:8 | One Word Religion

- Just as in the development of a one-world government, a one-world religion always means someone is *forced* into some form of worship.
- It is important to note that only those whose **names are not written in the book of life** will worship the beast. When compared with Revelation 20:4, 10, this means that *all* beast worshipers will spend eternity in hell. See also Revelation 14:9-10.
- Therefore, it looks like any offer of salvation is gone by the midpoint of the tribulation. By this point, the world has either chosen God or man.
- Most of the non-worshippers are Jews, but there will be some *righteous Gentiles* present at the judgment of the nations.

Revelation 13:9-10 | No More Salvation

- Verse 9 contains the last “hear” warning (there have been eight). After this, it is too late.
- Verse 10 gives a prophetic condemnation of those who serve with the Antichrist, doing his bidding.
- There comes a time when God allows man to make his own decisions. This time has certainly come.
 - In our day, man is *free to decide*, but he also has the witness of believers sharing the Gospel.
 - In that day, any witness would be *too little, too late*.
- This period after which no man may turn to God likely begins at the establishment of Antichrist's one-world order during the fifth seal (i.e.: the midpoint of the tribulation).

Some thoughts about a one-world order

- A true one-world order will never happen before Christ reigns. Even the Antichrist is going to have difficulty holding his new world order in place.
- The end-times one-world order is going to require strict enforcement (stay tuned for part 3).
- It is essential that Christians defend *individual* liberties rather than “the good of the whole.” The latter inevitably restricts the former.
- A one-world order always requires a dictator, and a dictator always removes dissent.