

57. The Book of Revelation—13:4-7

A message by Pastor Phil Ballmaier
(10-6-21)

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In this chapter we are introduced to two coming world leaders—one political and the other religious.

In verses 1-10 we are introduced to the first of these two leaders—a political leader likened to a **'beast'** that rises out of the **'sea.'** (**verse 1**)—we know him as the Antichrist.

And then in verses 11 through 18 we are introduced to a second beast, a religious leader who rises up out of the *earth* and will unite the world in a global religion where the Antichrist (First Beast) is worshipped as God—this second beast is called the *'false prophet.'*

Revelation 13:1-4 (NKJV)

¹ Then I stood on the sand of the sea. And I saw a beast [Antichrist] rising up out of the sea, having seven heads and ten horns, and on his horns ten crowns, and on his heads a blasphemous name. ² Now the beast which I saw was like a leopard, his feet were like *the feet of a bear*, and his mouth like the mouth of a lion. The dragon [Satan] gave him his power, his throne, and great authority. ³ 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. ⁴ 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?"

And all the world marveled and followed the beast—whose **"deadly wound was healed."** **verse 3** (Explain)

This becomes a *'game-changer'* for the Antichrist's followers, who up until this point were enamored with him as the ultimate human being and political leader—but now move into full blown worship of him as a god (he has the power to raise himself from the dead)!

I believe this is what motivates the Antichrist's followers to worship him saying, **"Who is like the beast? Who is able to make war with him?"**

I believe this coincides with Revelation 11:7—

Revelation 11:7 (NKJV)

⁷ When they finish their testimony (the Two Witnesses), the beast that ascends out of the bottomless pit will make war against them, overcome them, and kill them.

I believe that the Antichrist, after his *'resurrection'* and the devil entering into him, will then be able to kill the Two Witnesses which causes the world to say, **"Who is like the beast? Who is able to make war with him?"** (**verse 4**)—setting the stage for Armageddon (Revelation 19).

Remember, the world has wanted (and tried) to kill these two witnesses for 3 ½ years (first half of the 70th week of Daniel)—but God wouldn't let them be killed—in fact we read:

Revelation 11:5 (NKJV)

⁵ **And if anyone wants to harm them, fire proceeds from their mouth and devours their enemies. And if anyone wants to harm them, he must be killed in this manner.**

So, the Two Witnesses have been indestructible until the Antichrist's pseudo resurrection where God now allows him to kill these two 'troublemakers'

After the Antichrist kills the Two Witnesses he will then go directly to the Temple of God in Jerusalem, into the Holy of Holies where he sets up his image causing the worship of the true and living God to cease—and demands to be worshipped as God (the ultimate blasphemy—Revelation 13:5)!

This will officially begin the last half of the 70th week of Daniel (the last half of the 7-year Tribulation Period called the 'Great Tribulation').

Revelation 13:5 (NKJV)

⁵ **And he was given a mouth speaking great things and blasphemies, and he was given authority to continue for forty-two months.**

What this is saying is that from the time he sets up his image in the Holy of Holies until Jesus returns to establish His Kingdom and ends the Antichrist's reign—will be forty-two months (30 days each totaling 1260 days).

Revelation 13:6 (NKJV)

⁶ **Then he opened his mouth in blasphemy against God, to blaspheme His name, His tabernacle, and those who dwell in heaven.**

You see Satan can't any longer accuse the saints personally because he no longer has access to God's throne in heaven. The reason for that was because he was cast out of heaven by Michael the archangel and his army in Revelation 12:7-9.

So now he speaks through the Antichrist to blaspheme God and His saints who dwell in heaven (those who will be reigning upon the earth shortly with Jesus).

The Antichrist will be the ultimate blasphemer—and possibly a Jew.

Daniel 11:37 (NKJV)

³⁷ He shall regard neither the God of his fathers [Yahweh] nor the desire of women [Messiah], nor regard any god; for he shall exalt himself above *them* all [causing many to believe the Antichrist will be Jewish].

1 John 2:22 (NKJV)

²² Who is a liar but he who denies that Jesus is the Christ? He is antichrist who denies the Father and the Son. *[does John have Daniel 11:37 in view?—sounds like it]*

2 Thessalonians 2:3-4 (NKJV)

³ Let no one deceive you by any means; for *that Day will not come* unless the falling away comes first, and the man of sin is revealed, the son of perdition, ⁴ who opposes and exalts himself above all that is called God or that is worshiped, so that he sits as God in the temple of God, showing himself that he is God.

This guy will be the quintessential media hog (making Fauci look camera shy)—he'll be on with all of the 'talking heads' on all the mainstream media outlets including the cable channels like CNN and MSNBC.

He'll be on with the late-night guys like Colbert and Kimmel, and on daytime shows like the View and Good Morning America—declaring to anyone and everyone his 'good news' that he is God, "so come and follow (and worship) me—and I'll teach you how you can become a god like me!"

And follow him *they* will—the “**they**” I’m referring to are those who “**dwel upon the earth**” also known as the “**earth-dwellers**” (verses 8, 12, and 14).

They will all be hyper-partisans of this man and follow him enthusiastically—not to godhood, but to the slaughter!

Revelation 13:7 (NKJV)

⁷ It was granted to him to make war with the saints and to overcome them. And authority was given him over every tribe, tongue, and nation.

This will begin a time of persecution for the Jews and for all those who believe in Jesus Christ unlike anything in the history of mankind. (Matthew 24:21)

Some people believe that the Church must be on earth during the Tribulation in order for the Antichrist to “**make war with the saints.**” But they fail to understand that there are three groups of people in the Bible referred to as “**saints**” (“separated ones”).

- First, throughout the Old Testament period the word “**saints**” referred to the covenant people of God—Israel.
- In the New Testament the word “**saint(s)**” is used with regard to the people of the new covenant—the Church (i.e., ‘Christians’).
- And after the Church is raptured, the term “**saint(s)**” will be used of those who get saved during the 7-year Tribulation Period—a group that will be known as “Tribulation Saints!”

These are the *saints* that are in view here in Revelation 13:7 that the Antichrist makes war with and overcomes—which again proves that these saints won’t be Church Saints.

How do I know that—because Jesus promised that against His Church the gates of Hades would not prevail—in other words, would not overcome! (Matthew 16:18)

Now understand—when verse 7 says that the Antichrist will make war with these Tribulation Saints and ‘**overcome**’ them—it’s not saying he will be able to overcome and destroy their *faith*. He will overpower them *physically*—**but not spiritually**.

He will slaughter God’s people on a scale that will be unprecedented in human history—

Revelation 7:13-14 (NKJV)

¹³ Then one of the elders answered, saying to me, "Who are these arrayed in white robes, and where did they come from?" ¹⁴ And I said to him, "Sir, you know." So he said to me, "These are the ones who come out of the great tribulation, and washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

“And authority was given him over every tribe, tongue, and nation.” (verse 7)

It is right here that the Antichrist moves from *political facilitator* to military dictator—a blood thirsty tyrant who now rules the whole world with an ‘iron-fist’—

Daniel 11:36 (NKJV)

³⁶ "Then the king [Antichrist] shall do according to his own will: he shall exalt and magnify himself above every god, shall speak blasphemies against the God of gods, and shall prosper till the wrath has been accomplished; for what has been determined shall be done.

Revelation 13:8 (NKJV)

⁸ **All who dwell on the earth will worship him...**

At this time there will be only two groups on the earth—followers of Jesus Christ and the followers of the Antichrist—aka. ‘*the earth-dwellers*’.

There won’t be any atheists or agnostics alive on the earth at this point in the Great Tribulation Period—only believers in the true and living God and His Son Jesus Christ; or believers in the dragon and his ‘son’ the Antichrist.

The big question is why do the earth dwellers accept and worship the dragon and his christ (a counterfeit christ) —but they reject the true God and His true Christ?

I mean, Christianity has been around for 2000 years and has been proven to be true through many ‘infallible truths’ (Acts 1:3)—so why are these people going to reject Christianity for a ‘johnny come lately’ religion?

Think about it—Satan seems to be offering in the way of a belief system exactly what God Himself is offering—so why reject the one and yet so enthusiastically receive the other?

The difference between the two is *obedience* to God’s law (to God’s Word).

What Satan is offering is religion without the cross (Matt.4:8-9)—a faith system built on selfishness, lawlessness, and *rebellion* (against God):

2 Thessalonians 2:9 (NKJV)

⁹ The coming of the *lawless one* is according to the working of Satan, with all power, signs, and lying wonders,

The ‘gospel’ of Satan and Antichrist is going to be *religion without rules*—humanism elevated to godhood where people answer to no one but themselves!

A religion that says that if you worship the Dragon and Antichrist and follow them you too can achieve godhood and have eternal life without the rules and laws of the God of heaven who they defiantly blaspheme and rebel against.

2 Thessalonians 2:3-4, 9-11 (NKJV)

³ Let no one deceive you by any means; for *that Day will not come* unless the falling away comes first, and the man of sin is revealed, the son of perdition, ⁴ who opposes and exalts himself above all that is called God or that is worshiped, so that he sits as God in the temple of God, showing himself that he is God...

⁹ The coming of the *lawless one* is according to the working of Satan, with all power, signs, and lying wonders,

¹⁰ and with all unrighteous deception among those who perish, because they did not receive the love of the truth, that they might be saved. ¹¹ And for this reason God will send them strong delusion, that they should believe **the lie**.

The Antichrist when he comes to power as the leader of a one-world government, will be hailed by the world as its messiah—but he will be a false messiah. The devil will empower him with miraculous intelligence, charisma, and supernatural power. And he will come preaching a ‘gospel’ but not the gospel of Jesus Christ, it will be a false gospel, a gospel that will contain nothing more than doctrines of demons—the very thing Paul the apostle warned us about when he said—

1 Timothy 4:1 (NKJV)

¹ Now the Spirit expressly says that in latter times some will depart from the faith, giving heed to deceiving spirits and doctrines of demons,

2 Corinthians 11:3-4, 13-15 (NKJV)

³ But I fear, lest somehow, as the serpent deceived Eve by his craftiness, so your minds may be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ. ⁴ For if he who comes preaches another Jesus whom we have not preached, or if you receive a different spirit which you have not received, or a different gospel which you have not accepted-- you may well put up with it!...

¹³ For such *are* false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into apostles of Christ. ¹⁴ And no wonder! For Satan himself transforms himself into an angel of light. ¹⁵ Therefore *it is* no great thing if his ministers also transform themselves into ministers of righteousness, whose end will be according to their works.

➔ Check out the video—“**Gods Among Us**” on Prime Video if you want to see the people of the world being prepared by demons masquerading as extra-terrestrials ‘helping’ the human race to evolve into a higher form of existence or godhood!

If you would like to know more about what it means to be a Jesus-follower—please reach out to us. It would be our greatest privilege to lead you into a saving relationship with Jesus Christ.

Want to know more? Click [here](#).

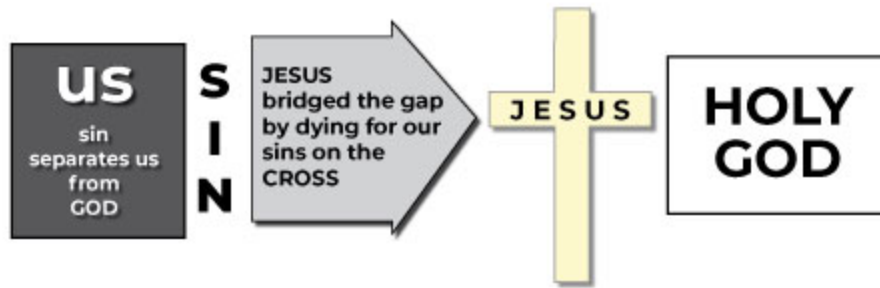
Reach out to us [here](#).

THE WRONG WAY TO GOD



“I AM the Way, and the Truth, and the Life. No one comes to The Father except through Me.” John 14:6

THE ONLY WAY TO GOD



"For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life." *John 3:16*