

Revelation Part 11 | 7/16/17

- Key events in Chapters 12-13
 - Three distinct satanic roles
 - In chapters 12 and 13 we are introduced to three different roles or entities that are satanic and serve different purposes.
 - This sometimes called the “satanic trinity”
 - We will be introduced to the dragon (Satan), the beast (antichrist) and a false prophet (2nd beast).
 - These three are all controlled by Satan but we will see they serve different functions.
 - There will be a heavenly war in which Satan and his demons will be cast down to earth.
 - The antichrist will rise to power and control the world, he will seek to destroy those who love Christ.
 - The world will worship the antichrist as a god as he will deceive the world into thinking that he too died and was resurrected.
 - There will be a false prophet sent by Satan to make the people on the earth worship the antichrist. He will perform “miracles” and great signs and wonders.
 - There will be a single world system to buy and purchase, the mark of the beast “666” will come to light.
- The woman, male child and the dragon. | Revelation 12:1-6
 - **Read Revelation 12:1-6**
 - There are 3 symbols (signs) used in these verses as we have the woman, the male child and the red dragon which are Israel, Jesus Christ and Satan.
 - The woman – Israel
 - Israel has commonly been symbolically referred to as a woman and wife in the Old Testament.
 - Isaiah 54:5-6
 - “For you Maker is your husband, the LORD of hosts is his name; and the Holy One of Israel is your Redeemer, the God of the whole earth he is called. For the LORD has called you like a wife deserted and grieved in spirit, like a wife of youth when she is cast off, says your God.”
 - There is a reference the sun, moon and stars being Israel as this is how they were perceived in Joseph’s dream.
 - Genesis 37:9-10
 - “Then he dreamed another dream and told it to his brothers and said, Behold, I have dreamed another dream. Behold, the sun, the moon, and eleven stars were bowing down to me.”
 - The male child – Jesus Christ
 - The male child who rules the nations with a rod of iron and is caught up to God is Jesus Christ.
 - He is described ruling with a rod of iron at His 2nd coming.
 - Revelation 19:15
 - “From his mouth comes a sharp sword with which to strike down the nations, and he will rule them with a rod of iron. He will tread the winepress of the fury of the wrath of God the Almighty.”
 - This was foreshadowed in Psalms.

- Psalms 2:9
 - “You shall break them with a rod of iron and dash them in pieces like a potter’s vessel.”
 - The red dragon – Satan
 - This is clearly defined in Revelation 12:9 that the dragon is Satan.
 - Revelation 12:9
 - “And the great dragon was thrown down, that ancient serpent, who is called the devil and Satan, the deceiver of the whole world—he was thrown down to the earth, and his angels were thrown down with him.”
 - This passage speaks to events that have already taken place between Israel, Jesus and Satan.
 - This is a very short summary of events that have already taken place. God wanting John to record this as a reminder.
 - Israel gave birth to a son who is Jesus Christ.
 - Satan and his angels fell from heaven.
 - Satan attempted to kill Jesus on numerous occasions.
 - Christ is and will rule.
 - Christ ascended into heaven.
 - This summary makes sense knowing the events that are going to take place with Satan being defeated and cast down to earth.
 - Then we are told that God will protect Israel during the last 3 ½ years of the tribulation.
 - Where they will be we are not certain, but it is understood that they will be physically moved somewhere and God will spare them.
 - This is the event Jesus referenced in Mark
 - Mark 13:14
 - “But when you see the abomination of desolation standing where he ought not to be (let the reader understand), then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains.”
- War in heaven and Satan is thrown down to earth | Revelation 12:7-12
 - **Read Revelation 12:7-12**
 - The heavenly battle where Satan and his angels are cast down to earth.
 - There has always been a war going on between Satan and Christ.
 - In fact, we are now ourselves involved in spiritual warfare.
 - This is why we are told to put on the armor of God to combat the forces of evil.
 - Ephesians 6:11
 - “Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil.
 - Ephesians 6:12b
 - “...cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places”
 - There will be a time where a war will break out between Michael and his angels that will fight against Satan and his demons.
 - This is likely impossible for us to truly comprehend beyond what feeble imagery our imaginations try to portray for us.
 - **But in this battle Satan will try to overcome God, but he WILL fail.**
 - **And with this failure he and his demons were cast down to earth.**
 - **Note: Satan’s ultimate defeat was at the cross.**

- This passage could be taken to be future as some see it, or perhaps a reflection to when Satan was ultimately defeated at the cross.
 - John 12:31-33
 - “Now is the judgment of this world; **now will the ruler of this world be cast out**. And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, I will draw all people to myself. He said this to show by what kind of death he was going to die.”
 - Because of this some see this as a historical event and not future.
- This is not his final demise which comes later in chapter 20 where he is cast into the lake of fire.
 - Revelation 20:10
 - “and the devil who had deceived them was thrown into the lake of fire and sulfur where the beast and the prophet were, and they will be tormented day and night forever and ever.”
- This passage also reminds us that while Satan was cast out during the original rebellion, he still has some form of access and speaks against the saints.
 - This of course is extremely difficult to comprehend, Satan and his angels were cast out but they still have some form of heavenly access to war and speak with God’s angels.
 - A couple of interesting passages that reflect this:
 - In Job, we see Satan interacting with God.
 - Job 1:6-7
 - “Now there was a day when the sons of God came to present themselves before the LORD, and Satan also came among them. The LORD said to Satan, From where have you come? Satan answered the LORD and said, From going to and fro on the earth, and from walking up and down on it.”
 - In Jude, we have a reference where Michael contends with Satan over the body of Moses.
 - Jude 9a
 - “But when the archangel Michael, contending with the devil, was disputing about the body of Moses...”
 - Scripture hints at things that go on that we are not meant to fully comprehend.
 - Satan the accuser
 - Satan’s name in Scripture defines who he is.
 - The name “devil” comes from a Greek verb that means “to slander, falsely accuse or accuser”.
 - The name “Satan” means adversary.
 - He is the deceiver of the whole world.
 - Everything that is wrong in the world, all of the lies and false teachings come from Satan.
 - He is the ultimate deceiver the liar who has the ability to twist the truth, to make what is good seem evil and what is evil seem good.
 - We see this portrayed in our world today.
 - Just as Scripture tells us that the kingdom and rules will come against Christ they do so this very day.
 - “Acts 4:26
 - “The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers were gathered together, against the Lord

and against his Anointed- for truly in this city there were gathered together against your holy servant Jesus, whom you anointed, both Herod and Pontius Pilate, along with the Gentiles and the peoples of Israel,”

- Satan deceives the world into thinking that Christianity is somehow evil and that Christians are the true enemy.
- **Have you seen Satan deceiving the world into thinking that Christians are evil or the enemy? What are some examples?**
- This passage also tells us that Satan continually accuses the Christians.
 - Satan also attempts to accuse the saints, the Christians of their failures.
 - He wants God to see the evil and sins that we have committed.
 - In Zechariah, we are given a picture of a court room where Satan is the accuser (prosecutor).
 - Zechariah 3:1
 - “Then he showed me Joshua the high priest standing before the angel of the LORD, and Satan standing at his right hand to accuse him.”
 - This is what Satan does, he attempts to point all of our sins and failures to bring us down.
 - **Can you relate to this passage? Do you feel that Satan is always there trying to point out your sins and failures?**
- However, we have an advocate (our defense) Jesus Christ who speaks for us. Jesus is our advocate who takes away the punishment that is due because of our sins.
 - Because of the blood of Christ Satan has been conquered, his accusations have no power because of our advocate Jesus Christ.
 - 1 John 2:1-2
 - “My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. He is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.”
 - Romans 8:34
 - “Who is to condemn? Christ Jesus is the one who died-more than that, who was raised-who is at the right hand of God, who indeed is interceding for us.”
 - Romans 8:38-39
 - “For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.”
- **Woe to the earth because Satan has come down in great wrath and he knows his time is short.**
 - While we know that the end times will be bad, we see that Satan will even intensify his attacks against the people on the earth.
 - Even Satan will realize that his time is short, that soon Christ will come and bind him up.
- Satan turns his wrath upon the earth | Revelation 12:13-17
 - **Read Revelation 12:13-17**
 - Satan attacks Israel

- Prior to this time, we saw how the antichrist has already been deceiving the world and he makes himself appear to be “good”.
- There is a time where he is making himself known in the world so he has been rising through the ranks and making a name for himself.
- **He is the one who will kill the two witnesses and who made temporary peace with the Jewish people.**
- **He has been deceiving the world to gain power and influence so when he shows his true self that the lost in the world will blindly follow.**
 - Daniel 9:27a
 - “And he shall make a strong covenant with many for one week, and for half of the week he shall put an end to sacrifice and offering...”
- **The lost in the world will worship Satan and the antichrist.**
 - **(More on this below)**
- The ten horns and seven heads
 - This physical description is similar to that of the dragon and also previous Old Testament prophecies.
 - Further clarification of the beast is given to us in chapter 17.
 - Revelation 17:7
 - “But the angel said to me, “Why do you marvel? I will tell you the mystery of the woman, and of the beast with seven heads and ten horns that carries her.”
- The 10 horns
 - The horns always represent power and in this case these horns represent powerful kingdoms.
 - Revelation 17:12
 - “And the ten horns that you saw are ten kings who have not yet received royal power, but they are to receive authority as kings for one hour, together with the beast.”
 - Daniel 9:24
 - “As for the ten horns, out of this kingdom ten kings shall arise, and another shall arise after them; he shall be different from the former ones, and shall put down three kings.”
 - The antichrist will rise and control these 10 kingdoms, it will be a coalition of kingdoms that are contrary to God.
 - The antichrist will control the world during this time and desires everyone’s conformity and obedience.
 - The antichrist is the “little horn” spoken of in Daniel.
 - Daniel 9:20
 - “and about the ten horns that were on its head, and the other horn that came up and before which three of them fell, the horn that had eyes and a mouth that spoke great things, and that seemed greater than its companions.”
 - These horns contained diadems further signifying their “royalty” and dominion.
- The seven heads
 - There are a couple of different things these heads may represent.
 - A number believe it to be a reference to Rome because of a later clarification in 17:9 which refers to these as seven mountain which generally describes Rome because it is seated on 7 hills.

- Revelation 17:9
 - “This calls for a mind with wisdom: the seven heads are seven mountains on which the woman is seated;”
 - Another perspective is that they are the 7 kingdoms represented in verse 10.
 - Revelation 17:10
 - “they are also seven kings, five of whom have fallen, one is, the other has not yet come, and when he does come he must remain only a little while.”
- The kingdoms (symbolic as animals) whom Satan gives power.
 - The animals are symbolic for 3 different kingdoms that were described in visions given to Nebuchadnezzar and interpreted by Daniel.
 - There were kingdoms that would rule of Israel described in a statute in Chapter 2 and as animals in chapter 7.
 - With the fulfillment of Daniels interpretations from Daniel chapter 2 and 7 we know who these kingdoms are.
 - The leopard is ancient Greece
 - The bear is the Medo-Persian Empire
 - The lion is the ancient Babylonian Empire.
 - These empires will be part of the final world power under control by the antichrist.
 - Satan gives them power to become strong and to do the evil that he has planned.
 - **These kingdoms will not come together and be ruled with God at the center, they will have a Satanic center.**
- The mortal wound
 - While most on in agreement in is that this passage speaks to a mortal wound that was received by the antichrist.
 - He used this wound and healing as a way to deceive the world into showing his power through an act of death and resurrection.
 - Revelation 13:14
 - “and by the signs that it is allowed to work in the presence of the beast it deceives those who dwell on earth telling them to make an image for the beast that was wounded by the sword and yet lived.”
 - What isn’t agreed upon is if this was a “fake” mortal wound and “fake” revival or if he truly did die and was resurrected.
 - **Either way the world was made to believe that this antichrist died and was resurrected which further made him in the appearance of a “god”.**
 - Satan attempts to make his antichrist look like the true Christ.
 - **Interestingly Satan used the same method that God did to prove that Jesus Christ was the son of God through his death and resurrection.**
 - Satan will here use this same method (perhaps false) to turn the world to him.
 - **Does Satan deceive the world today in similar ways? Does he try to disguise himself as the one who is “good” to deceive the world into following a lie?**
- This brought worship to Satan (the dragon) and the antichrist.
 - Now the great deceiver has succeeded in making himself look like God, this has been his desire from the very beginning.
 - Isaiah 14:12-14
 - “How you are fallen from heaven, O Day Star, son of Dawn! How you are cut down to the ground, you who laid the nations low! You said in your heart, I will ascend to heaven; above the stars of God I will set my throne

on high; I will sit on the mount of assembly in the far reaches of the north, I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will make myself like the Most High.”

- All of those on the earth who are NOT Christians will bow down and worship him.
 - Revelation 13:8
- This is Satan’s high point.
 - He has been thrown down to the Earth, and he has now made himself a king or god.
 - **He will be given the glory from the world that he desires and will seem to have “won” in a sense.**
 - **Do you think Satan will think at this point that He has “won”?**
- Those who believe will be persecuted during this time.
 - This will be a great persecution for those who believe Christ.
 - The antichrist will be allowed to persecute those Christians who choose to not follow him. There will be many who will die.
 - God calls for those Christians to have endurance and to continue in the faith.
 - This is the same calling that God has for Christians today who are persecuted.
 - We are to have endurance and to continue in our faith.
 - Knowing that God is on the throne and no matter how bad things may be or look, that we must endure through the hard times and give him the glory and praise.
 - To show Him that even in times of hopelessness that our faith in Christ will overcome.
 - **Do you seem any similarities with the perseverance God has desired for the Christians during this time to what we may experience even today?**