#### **REVELATION: Lesson 123**

## Chapter 13:11-18, The Antichrist and the False Prophet: Uniting Religion and Politics

23 November 2020

Historically, wherever religion and politics were working together, it always brought great trouble and distress to the people. When the time comes for the Antichrist (political) to join forces with the False Prophet (religious), this world will see more trouble than could ever be imagined.

#### SIX THINGS THE FALSE PROPHET DOES:

Note: words ending with "...eth" in the KJV reveal that the word (action verb) is an ongoing present tense (continual).

- 1. "He exerciseth...power" (vs 12).
- 2. "He causeth...to worship" (vs 12).
- 3. "He doeth...great wonders" (vs 13).
- 4. "He maketh fire come down" (vs 13).
- 5. "He deceiveth...by...miracles" (vs 14).
- 6. "He causeth all...to receive a mark" (vs 16).
- This is a religious operation designed to convince the world to worship the Antichrist.
- It is not a denial of God; it is a religious movement which will aim to convince the world that the Bible is not needed because it is not as reliable as are the miracles seen with the eyes.
- In this system any and every religion will be acceptable as long as the Bible is not the authority.
- The Church will be removed (rapture), enabling the religion of the Antichrist to take root and grow.
  - Today the majority of churches in the world are already eliminating the Bible from their church in preparation for the Bible-less day of the Antichrist.
  - o The nations of the world where Christianity started have already discarded the Bible.
- The False Prophet's movement will not seek to remove religion. It will seek to remove mankind's
  ability to discern true religion from false religion (by removing the Bible as the final authority).
- The False Prophet "causeth all to receive the mark" through his convincing miracles. Nobody is forced to receive the mark.

## THE NEXT STEP: MAKE SURVIVAL DEPEND UPON THE TAKING OF THE MARK (VS 17)

- An economic boycott will be implemented so that no man might buy or sell without the mark.
- Nations are already using economic sanctions to get others to do what they want them to do.
- Society today is starting the move to eliminate cash and require the use of electronic transactions. This will help to facilitate the necessity of taking the mark of the beast.
- People today readily accept the new automated systems of salaries and purchases for convenience.
- The mark of the beast will be willingly accepted by the majority because of its convenience.

#### SATAN'S THREE FORMS OF GOVERNMENT:

- 1. **Antichrist**: (1 John 4:3). This is a dictatorship which places a man in the position of provider and protector of the people.
- 2. **Equality**: Socialism, Communism, Collectivism, etc. These are government systems designed to provide for man's needs through the cooperative efforts of every man (no need of God).
- 3. **Democracy**: decisions are made by majority vote. Historically the majority has been wrong. The Antichrist will be chosen by the will of the people. He'll be voted in.

### **GOD'S THREE FORMS OF GOVERNMENT:**

- 1. **Theocracy**: God rules without any human representative. (Eden to the start of the nation of Israel).
- 2. Kingdom: One man is appointed by God and is accountable to Him for his rule of the people.
- 3. **Assisted Monarchy**: There is a king in power who delegates authority to divinely appointed assistants (such as the 70 elders in Moses' day).
  - a. God has appointed certain men in His New Testament Church (Pastors, Bishops, Elders, and other gifted men) to assist in the governing of the Church (1 Timothy 3:1-13).
  - b. Certain members of the Church will rule and reign with Christ in the Millennium (Rev 20:6).

# PLANTING SEEDS FOR THE KINGDOM OF THE ANTICHRIST:

- 1. **Niccolò Machiavelli**: In 1513 this Italian diplomat wrote "**The Prince**," a political bible for European heads of state. He was inspired by a very corrupt and wicked man named **Caesar Borgia**, Duke of Valentino, whose philosophy consisted of expediency: do whatever it takes to get the job done as long as the end result is for the common good of all. "*The ends justify the means*."
- 2. **Benito Mussolini**: Prime minister of Italy (1922-1943). "The state is God! And Machiavelli is his prophet!" Do what you want, kill whoever you want to kill, take what you want to take, as long as you believe it is "for the good of the common man."
- 3. **Georg Wilhelm Friedrich Hegel** (1770-1831): German Philosopher who proposed nearly every Communist principle. The state is god. Only the strongest states should survive. States should do whatever is necessary (immoral or not) to survive (survival of the fittest NATION). This led nations to create the most inhumane weapons, the cruelest forms of torture, and the most appalling treatment of prisoners. Inferior states have no right to exist. Superior states should govern the world. He taught evolution of the state.
- 4. **Charles Darwin** (1809-1882): This man taught evolution of the individual. This philosophy will lead to the Beast: no morals, no conscience, no scruples, no right, no wrong, God is whoever you want him to be. This is what has led to hundreds of church denominations and bible versions.
- 5. **Roman Catholic Countries**: modeled on Machiavelli's ideas, they consist of a Pope telling his subordinates to do whatever they want to do (good or bad) as long as the "church" comes to power.

## NAME THE BEAST

- 1. Napoleon Bonaparte (1769-1821): French statesman and military leader.
- 2. Adolph Hitler (1889-1945): German politician and leader of the Nazi party.
- 3. "The Beast:" A three-story computer in Brussels, Belgium described as being the brain-child of the European Common Market. It is said to be "self programming" and is intended to track the buying and selling activities of every person on earth.
- 4. There have been **many Anti-Christs** (Pol Pot, Idi Amin, Lao Tse), men who have caused great suffering in <u>different nations</u>, but they do not qualify as "THE Antichrist," who will cause suffering <u>worldwide</u>.
- 5. God does not reveal the name of the Beast in the book that reveals (Revelation). It's not important.
- 6. The name that matters is the Lord Jesus Christ. Are you trusting in His name? (Philippians 2:10).