

THE MYSTERY OF PROPHECY EXPLAINED

PART 3A – MORE SCRIPTURES DESCRIBING THE ANTICHRIST

LESSON 67: The Antichrist as described in the Revelation.

REVELATION 2

- He will be a false Apostle, (chapter 2, verse 2).
- He will manifest the works and doctrine of the religious and decadent Nicolaitanes, (verses 6 & 15).
- He will be a false Christian in a false Christian church, (verse 9).
- He will persecute the saints, imprison and kill them, (verses 9-10, 13).
- He will reign from Satan's seat, the capital of Mystery Babylon, (verse 13).
- He will cause many to eat a sacrifice offered to idols, thereby committing the abomination of fornication, (verse 14).
- His entourage will include false prophetesses, (verse 20).
- He will teach the doctrines of Satan, (verse 24).

REVELATION 3

- He will not repent of his sin, nor will he faithfully keep watch over his sheep, (chapter 3, verse 3).
- His deception will be so great that many will choose him over the truth and fall away, 'losing' their crowns, (verse 11).
- His church will be wealthy, yet his people spiritually blind and poverty-stricken, (verse 17).
- He and his people will not have the righteousness of Christ needed for salvation, (verse 18).

REVELATION 6

- Antichrist will come in the name of peace, (chapter 6, verse 2).
- Antichrist will remove peace, killing many with a great sword, (verse 3).
- Antichrist will have authority over trade and economy, (verse 6).
- Antichrist is really the angel of death. Those who follow him are destined for Hell, (verse 8).
- Antichrist kills numerous true Christians for religious reasons, (verse 11).

REVELATION 8

- Antichrist is called *Wormwood*. He was once a Christian, a great star in heaven, but fell from grace, and apostatized, becoming the enemy of God, (chapter 8:10-11).

REVELATION 9

- Antichrist is called the *Destroyer, king, and angel of the abyss*, (chapter 9, verse 11).
- Antichrist's people will not repent of their worshipping devils and idols, or their murdering, sorceries, fornication or thefts, (verses 20-21).

REVELATION 11

- Antichrist is called *the beast that ascendeth out of the bottomless pit*, (chapter 11, verse 7).
- The beast/Antichrist wages war against the two witnesses, who are true Christians. This is the same characteristic of the little horn/beast, (verse 7).
- The beast/Antichrist overcomes them and kills them, as does the little horn/beast.
- The location of the dead bodies is given in spiritual, not literal, terms. It is spiritually called **Sodom** because of the grave and extensive nature of the sexual sins prevalent there. It is spiritually called **Egypt** because of the cruelty of the leaders and people to God's chosen. They will not allow God's people to worship Him in spirit and truth. This great city will be instrumental in creating wealth and bestowing it on those she favors. It is spiritually called **Jerusalem** because it will call itself *The Eternal City*, claiming to be center of Holiness, where the Lord resides. It will also imprison, question, torture, and execute the Body of Christ, His Elect, as it did the Lord Jesus Christ.
- PLEASE NOTE: Rev. 17:18 describes Mystery Babylon as that *great city*.

REVELATION 12

- Satan is described as a beast, a great red dragon, a monster serpent. He has grown in power and intensity from his days in the Garden of Eden, (Gen. 3).
- The dragon attempted, once again, to sabotage the Lord's eternal purposes and failed, (chapter 12, verses 4-5). Though the Lord was unjustly put to death, salvation for His people was accomplished. The dragon symbolizes the Roman Empire, including unbelieving Israel, who had the greater guilt for crucifying our Lord. (It is unbelieving Israel whom the people of God must fear most.) The dragon is the 4th Beast seen in Daniel 7:7. Both have 10 horns, symbolizing its division into 10 kingdoms, upon its dissolution.
- This same dragon, the Devil, will attempt to exterminate and silence God's Elect, a wilderness remnant, (verses 16-17).
- Though there will be fierce warfare resulting in their martyrdom, the victory is theirs (verses 11; 15-17).

- The time period of *time, times and 1/2 a time* is identical to the time period of Daniel 7:25. This is because they refer to the same event: the great tribulation of the saints persecuted by the Antichrist.

REVELATION 13:1-10

- The Beast who rises up out of the sea is the son of Satan, the great dragon. He, too, has seven heads and ten horns. He is not the 4th beast seen by Daniel, but is a composite of all the beasts. Thus, he will manifest characteristics of them all. In fact, he is the little horn/beast of Daniel 7 which we will soon prove.
- The Beast is a man, indicated by the personal pronoun, 'he.'
- This Beast comes as Satan's vicar, with great authority, power and rule over Satan's world kingdom, (chapter 13, verse 2). The Beast has capitulated to Satan's temptations. (see Matt. 4:8-9).
- His heads may be interpreted, among other things, as a succession of heads, or rulers, who occupy the same office, (vicar of Satan), one king at a time. When one occupant of the 'seat' or high office vacates, another takes his place.
- The world does not know the true identity of the Beast, which is why they marvel and wonder after him. They do not revile, loathe and separate from him, (verse 4).
- The world is unable to positively 'I.D.' this Beast. They refuse to see that his 'fingerprints' and 'DNA' positively match those of the predicted Antichrist.
- His power is so great, his deception so complete, that to the unsaved it is impossible to imagine anyone overcoming and destroying him and his lies. But we are assured in the prophetic Word of God that there have been, are now, and will always be, those to whom He has given power and authority to prophesy and war against this Beast, exposing him to all the discerning Elect as the great Antichrist, (see chapters 10, 11 & 12), the false Christ and false savior.
- The wonderment of the unbelieving world is cause for the doctrine of the Antichrist to be called the *mystery of iniquity*.
- This Beast parallels the attributes of the little horn/beast/Man of Sin:
 - (1) All have a mouth speaking great things.
 - (2) Both the Beast from the sea and the Man of Sin blaspheme God, His name and His temple.
 - (3) Both the Beast from the sea and Daniel's little horn/beast make war on the saints and kill them.
- The Beast from the sea is judged and destroyed by the one-stage Advent of Christ, (Rev. 19:20), as are the little horn/beast and Man of Sin.
- Therefore, the Beast from the sea, the little horn/beast, and the Man of Sin are one and the same person: The Antichrist.

- IMPORTANT NOTE: The Holy Spirit has revealed a test for us to determine the identity of the false Christians: They will worship/serve/honor and obey the Antichrist, (verse 8). A sign of warning to us: THEY WILL REFUSE TO BELIEVE THAT HE *IS* THE ANTICHRIST.

REVELATION 13:11-18

- The beast from the earth is the false prophet of the greater Beast, the Antichrist, (Rev. 19:20).
- The beast from the earth is a man and the personal pronoun, 'he,' is used. 'He' is not the United States.
- He is described as a 'beast' because, like the Beast from the sea, he, too, is of the family of the great dragon.
- The beast from the earth is a false Christian prophet, whose words reveal his true nature, (verse 11).
- This second beast is under the authority of the first Beast, (verse 12).
- He possesses power to work the miracles of the first Beast, (verses 12, 13).
- His purpose is to direct the unsaved to worship/honor/obey/fellowship with the first Beast, the Antichrist.
- Image worship is a sign given us to identify the kingdom of the Beast, (verse 14-15). Those who refuse are killed.
- The mark on the right hand and/or forehead is another sign given us to identify the kingdom of the Beast.
- Verse 18 reiterates that the first Beast is a man. Divine wisdom is necessary to solve the 666 mystery.

REVELATION 16

- The wrath of God falls on Antichrist, his people and his kingdom.
- They have all succumbed to taking the mark and image worship, (verse 2).
- They are declared guilty of killing those who refused, (verse 6).
- The seat of the Beast, (verse 10), is the same seat alluded to in II Thess. 2:4 & Rev. 13:2 because they refer to the same person, the Antichrist.
- The Beast and his people do not repent of their evil works, but continue them, (verse 11).
- Verse 13 describes the Unholy Trinity, the master deception of Satan to replace the Triune Godhead.

- Verse 15 issues a stern warning. During this great battle of Armageddon, those who profess to be Christians, the great and the small, will be revealed to the Elect as the frauds they really are.

REVELATION 17

- If the angel had not sovereignly revealed the judgment and identity of the great whore, John would have been ignorant.
- The Lord does not will that His people be ignorant. John was to publish this information for all Christians to read and believe.
- Antichrist's false church is described as the Mother of all harlots, a type of Babylon, and a mystery. The world does not know her identity.
- We understand her to be the false church of the Antichrist because she holds many similar, yet opposite, attributes to the true Church of Jesus Christ:
 - (1) Both are women, brides. [Harlot, unfaithful, a widow dressed in purple and scarlet vs. The wife of Christ, dressed in clean, white and fine linen.]
 - (2) Both are cities.
 - (3) Both sit on their respective 'rocks.' Mystery Babylon rests upon the scarlet Beast, the Antichrist. The true Church which rests upon the Lamb, the Lord Jesus Christ.
- The Church of the Antichrist does his will. She kills the innocent saints and prophets of Jesus, (verse 6).
- This fact does not hinder the great men of the world in seeking her trust and friendship, while making concordats with her, (verse 2). After all, what's untold millions of slaughtered saints between 'friends'?
- We can determine who are the false, drunken Christians by how they receive the great whore and the scarlet Beast.
- We can determine who are the courageous, watchful Christians by how outspoken they are against the whore and the Beast.
- We can determine who the Lord loves by the truth and discernment given them in prophetic matters. The Lord loved John so much that He trusted him with the Revelation.
- The angel reveals the mystery of the woman and the scarlet Beast, (verse 7). God does not will it be a mystery to us. His true Church should not wonder.
- We may learn several facts regarding the Beast who ascends out of the bottomless pit, (verse 8).
 - (1) He is not a Christian. His origin is Hell, not Heaven.

- (2) He is the same cruel person as the angel of the bottomless pit, a king, called *The Destroyer*, (chapter 9, verse 11).
- (3) He is the same wicked person as the beast that ascendeth out of the bottomless pit, who kills the two witnesses, (chapter 11, verse 7).
- (4) He is scarlet colored, symbolizing his sinful and murderous nature. It also speaks to his majesty and wealth.
- (5) He goes into perdition, (verses 8 & 11). His destination is Hell, not Heaven. The Holy spirit is alerting us that he is the same person as the Man of Sin, the son of perdition.
- (6) He is the eighth mountain or hill, and yet is of the original seven hills, (verse 11).

- IMPORTANT NOTE: In verse 8 we have the second admonition by the Holy Spirit warning us that those who wonder after the Beast, those to whom his identity is still a mystery, are UNSAVED.

- IMPORTANT NOTE # 2: The Beast, the Antichrist, is seen in a state of 'is not,' (verse 8), when beheld by the unbelieving world. He 'is not' now imprisoning, torturing, and murdering Christians as he once did, (the 'was' state), yet the Holy Spirit declares he 'yet is' a murderer, liar and a thief.

- IMPORTANT NOTE # 3: It is the personal opinion of this author that much of Revelation 17 remains to be played out. Thus, it is futile and foolish to prognosticate prophecy which is unfulfilled. The KJV states, in verse 16, that *the ten horns which thou sawest upon the beast, these shall hate the whore, and make her desolate and naked, and shall eat her flesh, and burn her with fire*. This is in contradistinction to other translations.

- Divine wisdom reveals the location of this false church. She is located in the city of seven mountains or hills, which is ruling over the world at the time of the Apostle John's exile, (verses 9 & 18).

REVELATION 18

- Divine judgment is declared against this false church. It will not be turned back.
- Instead of being holy and pure, the Holy Spirit-filled Temple of God, she is the home of devils, the most wicked foul spirits of every kind, the Temple of the Antichrist.
- The peoples, false Christians included, and the kings of the earth are not disturbed by her overt wickedness and rampant evil.
- God will spare only those Elect in her who come out of her, (verse 4).
- There is no salvation in that false church.
- God has not forgotten her innumerable and despicable crimes, (verse 5). This "remembrance" on God's part necessitates a much longer time period than the 3 1/2 year great tribulation taught by the Futurists. Historicists view this time period at 1260 years, minimum.

- Her demise and ruin is sudden and shocking to the world-at-large, (verses 9-10).
- Mystery Babylon and those who sympathize with her, refuse to believe it is *she* who is the Church of the Damned, whose doom was written beforehand in Holy Writ, (verse 7).
- Although she was once a Christian Church, (verse 23), she is condemned the Synagogue of Satan, whose religion was sorcery, not sanctity, (verse 23), and to whom is imputed the guilt for all the martyrs' blood spilled through the ages.

REVELATION 19

- Instead of praying the Lord spare Mystery Babylon, the false church, the saints in Heaven CHEER her destruction, (verses 1-3). This is because she sinned the sin unto death, for which sin we are told *not* to pray for forgiveness, (I John 5:16). The Antichrist and false prophet have also sinned the sin unto death, their doom being foretold, and we are not to pray for them either.
- The Bride of Christ, His Church, has made herself ready upon the destruction of Mystery Babylon. It is time for the Marriage Supper of the Lamb, (verse 9). And what a supper it is! The Lord and His army of saints are gathered together to wage war against the Beast, false prophet, the kings of the earth and their armies, who are themselves gathered together to war against the Lord and His army. This war is spiritual, not carnal, as seen by the sharp sword which proceeds out of the Lord's mouth, (verses 15 & 21).
- The marriage supper of the Lamb is also called the Supper of the Great God, whereby the saints expose the carnality of the enemy who pose as Christians, who live and walk in the flesh, not in the Spirit.

REVELATION 20

- The binding of Satan for one thousand years is described.
- Two resurrections are depicted.
- In the first resurrection are seen those martyrs beheaded by the Antichrist and his people.
- They reign and rule with Christ for the same time period in which Satan is bound.
- These martyrs are deemed 'blessed and holy.'
- IMPORTANT OBSERVATION: Of all the Christian saints the Holy Spirit could have honored, He chose to honor and set apart those who chose death over compromise. It is these of whom Jesus spoke when He declared, *So, the last shall be first, and the first last.*

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