

A Dragon In Sheep's Clothing

Sermon study

Revelation 13:11-18

Problem:

As of 2014, there are an estimated 4,200 different religions in the world - but the bible tells us there are only two - video

What possibly could Islam, feminism, New Age mysticism, catholicism, marxism, liberalism, environmentalism, buddhism, atheism, and all the cults have in common?

their worship and service of the creature

no one is neutral - Rom 1:18-25

you already worship someone - either a creature or the Creator (1:25)

you already serve someone - either a creature or the Creator (1:25)

there are only two roads and you are on one of them right now

- Matt 7:13-15

Satan will not act to divide a world devoted to Christ but to unite a world already opposed to Christ
in other words

- the false prophet will rise not to cause idolatry but to organize it

not to cause rebellion but to formalize it

Main Idea:

The False Prophet will rise

and reveal the world's true religion

and reveal the world's true ruler

Implication:

The world wants unity - Satan wants unity, the AntiChrist will want unity, the false prophet will want unity
after all the broad road has lots of room on it

Christ wants division - He has drawn the line -Matt 10:34-42

Application:

Choose this day who you will serve - Josh 24:14-15

Choose who you will worship- 1 Kings 18:20-21

He came to cut across our easy syncretism, to deny us the comfortable solutions of perceived neutrality. He insists that ultimately theres only one choice because there are only two possibilities to choose from - Luke 14:25-43

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Text:

The False Prophet will rise

Rev. 13:11 ¶ Then I saw **another beast** rising out of the earth. It had two horns **like a lamb** and it spoke **like a dragon**.

another beast

- Rev 13:1 (distinct)

- Rev 19:20 (false prophet)

like a dragon

- Rev 12:9, 17; 13:2; 16:13; 20:10 (unholy trinity)

like a lamb

- 2 Cor 11:12-15 (a false prophet)

and reveal the World's true religion

Rev. 13:12 It exercises all the authority of the first beast in its presence, and makes the earth and its inhabitants **worship the first beast**, whose **mortal wound was healed**.

Rev. 13:13 It performs **great signs**, even making **fire come down (false Elijah)** from heaven to earth in front of people,

Rev. 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**.

Rev. 13:15 And it was allowed to give breath to **the image** of the beast, so that **the image** of the beast might even speak and might cause those who would not worship **the image** of the beast to be slain.

worship first beast/mortal wound

- Rev 13:3, 12, 14; 17:8 (counterfeit Res.)

great signs

- Matt 24:24 (counterfeit elijah)

deceives/make image

- 2 Thess 2:4, 9-12 (abomination of desolation)

an image /speak

- (Rev 14:9, 11; 15:2; 16:2; 19:20; 20:4 (important)

- (Exodus 20:3-4 (idolatry)

- Jer 10:1-5 satanic mockery

slain

- Dan 3:1-19 (two sides revealed)

and reveal the World's true ruler

Rev. 13:16 Also it causes all, both small and great, both rich and poor, both free and slave, to be **marked on the right hand or the forehead**,

Rev. 13:17 so that **no one can buy or sell unless he has the mark**, that is, the name of the beast or the number of its name.

Rev. 13:18 This calls for wisdom: let the one who has understanding calculate the number of the beast, for it is **the number of (a) man**, and his number is **666**.

marked - Rev 7:3; 14:1 (false seal)

666 = number of man in general (net)

buy or sell

- Matt 25:31-46 (two sides will be revealed)

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Articles for further study

<https://www.gotquestions.org/false-prophet.html>

<https://www.gotquestions.org/unholy-trinity.html>

<https://www.gotquestions.org/mark-beast.html>

<https://www.gotquestions.org/meaning-of-666.html>