

LIFE IN THE KINGDOM OF ANTICHRIST

Text: Rev. 12 - 13

INTRODUCTION: What will life be like for those who live on the earth in the second half of the tribulation under the growing rule of the antichrist?

I. THE WORLD WILL BE DOMINATED BY THE _____ TRINITY.

A. The Dragon - _____ - is ultimately behind it all. (12:7-17)

Revelation 12:7–17 7 And war broke out in heaven: Michael and his angels fought with the dragon; and the dragon and his angels fought, 8 but they did not prevail, nor was a place found for them in heaven any longer. 9 So **the great dragon was cast out, that serpent of old, called the Devil and Satan, who deceives the whole world; he was cast to the earth, and his angels were cast out with him.** 10 Then I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, "Now salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of His Christ have come, for the accuser of our brethren, who accused them before our God day and night, has been cast down. 11 And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony, and they did not love their lives to the death. 12 Therefore rejoice, O heavens, and you who dwell in them! Woe to the inhabitants of the earth and the sea! For the devil has come down to you, having great wrath, because he knows that he has a short time." 13 Now when the dragon saw that he had been cast to the earth, he persecuted the woman who gave birth to the male Child. 14 But the woman was given two wings of a great eagle, that she might fly into the wilderness to her place, where she is nourished for a time and times and half a time, from the presence of the serpent. 15 So the serpent spewed water out of his mouth like a flood after the woman, that he might cause her to be carried away by the flood. 16 But the earth helped the woman, and the earth opened its mouth and swallowed up the flood which the dragon had spewed out of his mouth. 17 And the dragon was enraged with the woman, and he went to make war with the rest of her offspring, who keep the commandments of God and have the testimony of Jesus Christ.

1. Satan is now on the earth "full time." (12:7-9)
2. Revelation 12:12 "Therefore rejoice, O heavens, and you who dwell in them! **Woe to the inhabitants of the earth and the sea! For the devil has come down to you, having great wrath,** because he knows that he has a short time."

B. The Beast from the _____ is the antichrist. (13:1-10)

1. He has consolidated his control of world power. Revelation 13:1-2 1 Then I stood on the sand of the sea. And I saw a beast 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 gave him his power, his throne, and great authority.

2. He has received his power, _____ control, and authority from the devil.
3. The people of the earth are in awe of him because of a psuedo-_____. Revelation 13:3-4 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?"
4. He blasphemes the Father and _____ himself in the place of Christ. Revelation 13:5-6 5 And he was given a mouth speaking great things and blasphemies, and he was given authority to continue for forty-two months. 6 Then he opened his mouth in blasphemy against God, to blaspheme His name, His tabernacle, and those who dwell in heaven.
5. He makes war on the _____. Revelation 13:7 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.
6. He seeks and receives the adoration and worship of all the _____ people on the face of the earth. Only the saved refuse. Revelation 13:8 All who dwell on the earth will worship him, whose names have not been written in the Book of Life of the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world.

C. The Beast from the _____ - the false prophet. (13:11-18)

1. Note his deceptive appearance. Revelation 13:11 Then I saw another beast coming up out of the earth, and he had two horns like a lamb and spoke like a dragon.
 - a. Looks like a _____. (Seems gentle as Jesus.)
 - b. Speaks like the _____. - Satan!
2. Note his alliance. Revelation 13:12 And he exercises all the authority of the first beast in his presence, and causes the earth and those who dwell in it to worship the first beast, whose deadly wound was healed.
 - a. He has the _____ of the antichrist.
 - b. He shares the _____ of the antichrist.

II. THE WORLD'S _____ WILL BE CONTROLLED BY THE ANTICHRIST.

A. He will make his financial capital to be the rebuilt city of _____. (Rev. 18)

1. Babylon had its origin with the building of the Tower of Babel.

Genesis 9:1 So God blessed Noah and his sons, and said to them: **“Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth.”**

Genesis 11:1–9 1 Now the whole earth had one language and one speech. 2 And it came to pass, as they journeyed from the east, that **they found a plain in the land of Shinar**, and they dwelt there. 3 Then they said to one another, “Come, let us make bricks and bake them thoroughly.” They had brick for stone, and they had asphalt for mortar. 4 And they said, **“Come, let us build ourselves a city, and a tower whose top is in the heavens; let us make a name for ourselves**, lest we be scattered abroad over the face of the whole earth.” 5 But the LORD came down to see the city and the tower which the sons of men had built. 6 And the LORD said, “Indeed the people are one and they all have one language, and this is what they begin to do; now nothing that they propose to do will be withheld from them. 7 Come, let Us go down and there confuse their language, that they may not understand one another’s speech.” 8 So the LORD scattered them abroad from there over the face of all the earth, and they ceased building the city. 9 **Therefore its name is called Babel**, because there the LORD confused the language of all the earth; and from there the LORD scattered them abroad over the face of all the earth.

2. Babylon became the seat of government and control for multiple dynasties.
3. Even secular history documents governments reigning from Babylon shortly after the beginnings of the repopulation of the earth following the _____ . Prominent among the remains of this era are ziggurats, stepped towers of worship, especially of the false god Marduk.
4. The first ruler of the First Dynasty of Babylonia took control 33 years after Abraham left Ur (not far from Babylon) for Haran.
5. The most famous of these early kings of Babylon was Hammurabi, who is famous for the “_____ of Hammurabi” which was a collection of laws to ensure justice in his territory.
6. After Hammurabi, the Babylonian Empire declined in power until it strengthened again under Nabopolassar.
7. However, it was Nebuchadnezzar, the son of Nabopolassar, who was successful in subduing the Assyrians and led Babylonia to become the _____ and strongest of the empires of the world in that time.
8. This ancient city and center of government, which served the devil and opposed God through all of its history, will become the economic capital of the world for the antichrist.

B. Many in the antichrist's kingdom will prosper financially because of the commerce of Babylon.

C. The antichrist will use the technology of the economy to _____ and eliminate dissidents.

1. Everyone will be required to receive the _____ of the beast. **Revelation 13:16-17** 16 He causes all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and slave, to receive a mark on their right hand or on their foreheads, 17 and that no one may buy or sell except one who has the mark or the name of the beast, or the number of his name.

The mark comes in three forms:

- a. A symbol
 - b. The _____ of antichrist
 - c. The number of his name - _____
 - 1) We are told that this is a special warning from God to help believers recognize the antichrist early.
 - 2) Greek letters have numerical value. You can add up the letters of a name and get a numerical value. The value of the antichrist's name will be 666.
 - 3) This is not the only criteria however. About 1 in every 10,000 names will equate to the number 666.
2. If one does not take the mark, he or she cannot _____ or _____.
 - a. Those believers who refuse and escape will be forced into hiding and subsistence living.
 3. If one does take the mark
 - a. He will experience the undiluted wrath of God.
 - b. He will be _____ in the lake of fire forever.

Revelation 14:10-11 10 he himself shall also drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is poured out full strength into the cup of His indignation. He shall be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels and in the presence of the Lamb. 11 And the smoke of their torment ascends forever and ever; and they have no rest day or night, who worship the beast and his image, and whoever receives the mark of his name.”

III. THE WORLD'S SPIRITUALITY WILL BE COERCED BY THE _____.

A. The religion of the false prophet will be a syncretistic _____ that has blended all the world religions into a single exaltation of humanity and who looks to the antichrist as its foremost example of a completely self-actualized man who is both worshipped and set as a goal for all who follow its practices.

B. The false prophet will deceive by _____ and _____.

Revelation 13:14 And he deceives those who dwell on the earth—by those signs which he was granted to do in the sight of the beast, telling those who dwell

on the earth to make an image to the beast who was wounded by the sword and lived.

C. He will make an image of the antichrist and give it artificial _____.

Revelation 13:15 He was granted *power* to give breath to the image of the beast, that the image of the beast should both speak and cause as many as would not worship the image of the beast to be killed.

D. He will seek to _____ all who will not worship the image of antichrist.
(13:15)

CONCLUSION: We do not live today in the kingdom of the antichrist, but we live in a society heavily influenced by antichrists. Our culture strongly urges us to

1. Put more emphasis on spending and making money than on God.
2. Relying on self rather than trusting Christ.

Notice how those believers who have victory in the tribulation obtain it.

Revelation 12:11 "And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony, and they did not love their lives to the death."

How would you do if you had to live in the kingdom of antichrist?