

Message #92 thru Message #106 of *Scripture Beneath The Surface*
“Looking At Revelation's Short Synopsis - Parts 1 - 15”

With Randy Smith
(269) 763-2114

Preparation Ministries, Inc

PO BOX 475 OLIVET, MI 49076

preparationministries@gmail.com

(Please feel free to call, write, or send e-mails)

Web Site: <http://www.preparationministries.net>

Broadcast Schedule

WBRI - AM 1500 - Indianapolis, IN - Sun. 9:00am

KCNW AM 1380 - Kansas City, KS - Sat & Sun. 10:30am

KXKS AM 1190 - Albuquerque, NM - Sun. 8:30am

KWDF AM 840 - Alexandria, LA - Sun. 12:00pm

WLQV AM 1500 - Detroit, MI, Sun. 10:00am

Also, Internet Stream - www.am1500wlqv.com

WFPM

99.5 FM in Battle Creek - Fri. 3:30pm

99.9 FM in Albion - Fri. 3:30pm

103.7 FM in Jackson - Fri. 3:30pm

Also, Internet Stream - www.wfpmradio.org

Part 1

Hello! Thanks for being with us. Just a reminder before we get started, you can request a copy of any program you hear. We provide them in CD format, and we also include the written copy so that you can follow along with the CD if you want to. Feel free to request any message you want, even if it is just to share with a friend. There is no charge for any of our materials, and no charge for shipping and handling. So feel free to ask. Listen at the end of the program and Kim will give you the postal and e-mail addresses.

So, for today, let's take a look at the synopsis which begins in Revelation 12:1. I referred to this synopsis last week in our overview of the timeline for the last days. And, just a reminder, the word synopsis means short overview. We're looking at Revelation's short overview of the events which start with the birth of Christ and end at the second coming. This will be part one.

So, this week, let's start with Revelation 12. Follow along with me if you can, and I'll read verses one and two. It says, “And there appeared a great wonder in heaven, a woman clothed with the sun, and the moon under her feet, and upon her head a crown of twelve stars. 2 And she, being with child, cried, travailing in birth, and pained to be delivered.” This woman of Revelation 12:1-2, refers to Israel. She has a crown of 12 stars on her head, which signifies the 12 tribes of Israel. Verse one says that she is clothed with the sun, and that the moon is under her feet. Being clothed with the sun indicates that she has emerged from her time of night into her time of day. The day, in scripture, refers to a time of light, and symbolically

refers to that period of time when the light of God shines upon the earth. There are other times when it seems that the word of God is obscure, that it is so hard to hear the word of God, and that we have so much difficulty comprehending it. The Bible refers symbolically to these times as, the night. When Revelation 12:1 says that she is clothed with the sun and that the moon is under her feet, it means that the nation of Israel has finished her time of being in darkness from the knowledge of God, and that she is now standing with the moon under her feet, which indicates that she has overcome the darkness and has come into the light.

And this is exactly what happened to Israel. For approximately 1500 years Israel had been in bondage under the Law of Moses. God had given the Law of Moses to the children of Israel in order to bring the world to a knowledge of sin, and that they could not overcome their sin through the works of the Law. Under the Law of Moses the understanding of spiritual things was hindered, and Israel could only comprehend God through the physical forms of worship in a physical temple, with physical sacrifices to purge their sin. The things that Jesus Christ brought in the New Testament were unknown in the Old Testament. The time of the Old Testament represents the night, and the time of the New Testament at the birth of Christ, represents the day. Therefore, the woman, Israel, in Revelation 12:1, has finally overcome the night and the day has now shone upon her.

Yet, most of the children of Israel did not truly recognize their Messiah. The new covenant of grace introduced God the Father in a much clearer perspective to all those who would receive him by faith. But the Israelites, because they were so steeped in tradition of the Law, had great difficulty in realizing that their salvation could exist just through believing in Jesus Christ, without doing the works of the Law. For almost 1500 years Israel had been God's chosen nation, and all other nations were prevented from coming to God. Beginning with the birth of Christ, a new way was being presented to the world for salvation. The Law of Moses would be fulfilled through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, and now, not just Israel, but all nations would be eligible for eternal life because of the forgiveness of sin through the blood of Jesus.

We know that the first Christians were Jews. And, by the way, in case you weren't certain, Israelites and Jews are the same thing. Israelites are called Jews because of being the people inhabiting the land of Judea, which is the land in the general area of Jerusalem. The word Jew is just an alternate spelling of j-u, the first letters of Judea. Anyway, it was the Jews who Jesus first came to in order to fulfill the Law, and it was the Jews who had the first opportunity to accept the Messiah. However, most of them rejected Jesus, but many did receive him. Soon it became evident that other nations were also included in the new covenant, and not just Israel, and not through the Law of Moses. Although the nation of Israel is still an important nation in the eyes of God, for a time they have been taken out of the way so that the other nations, the Gentiles, could be grafted in to the tree of God's chosen people. Revelation 12:2 explains that Israel, which was under the Law of Moses, was the vehicle God used to bring about salvation to the world. In a sense, Israel's trials and tribulations under the Law of Moses was her birthing pains, and through it the New Testament covenant of Grace came into effect for you

and me. We were born by the same process, and without Israel we would have no part with God at all. In the fullness of time, after having established that all men were completely sinful, and also that the Law could not save man from that sinfulness, Jesus Christ was born in Bethlehem.

This synopsis of Revelation 12, tells us that Satan was aware of God's plan to fulfill the Law of Moses through Christ Jesus and was waiting to destroy the Messiah as soon as he was born. Satan is referred to in verses 3 and 4 as a great red Dragon. Red is the color of extreme sinfulness. Dragon means great monstrous serpent. We see that Satan, as a great red monstrous serpent is depicted as having seven heads and ten horns. And just a side note here. Notice that it is Satan that has the seven heads and ten horns. Whenever you read about an evil beast in scripture, and it has seven heads and ten horns, remember this verse which tells us that the beast is just a symbolic form of Satan himself. Now, Revelation 12:4 tells us that at the time of Satan's rejection of God's authority in heaven, he also drew away a third of the stars of heaven from God. These stars are angels. Jude 1:6 refers to these angels as leaving their first estate, or in essence, leaving their first home, which was heaven. They chose to reject God just as Satan had rejected God.

In reading verse four, we see that Satan used his tail to draw a third of the angels away from God. This means that it was Satan's sin nature of rejecting God in order to exalt himself which drew the other angels away. The righteous nature of God was rejected and Satan and the evil angels chose to act without reason. They became brutish, as animals. This was the beginning of sin. The sin nature first rose up in Satan, and he then tempted the other angels, trying to convince them that the rejection of God, and their own self exaltation, was a desirable alternative. A third of the angels succumbed to the temptation and no longer accepted the kingdom of God as their kingdom. Verse four refers to them as being cast down to the earth. This means that they could no longer work within the heavenly framework of God's kingdom, but had become workers of the sinful nature, of which the people of earth in their flesh and blood bodies were especially susceptible.

In verse four it says that Satan stood before the woman who was ready to be delivered so that he could devour her child as soon as it was born. This is a reference to Satan's attempt to kill the Christ child through the edict of King Herod who called for the death of all children in the area of Bethlehem who were two years old or under. We know, of course, that both King Herod and Satan were prevented from killing the Christ child, for an angel had appeared to Joseph and told him to take the child and his mother into Egypt for safety.

Now, let me read Revelation 12:5. It says, "And she brought forth a male child, who was to rule all nations with a rod of iron: and her child was caught up to God, and to his throne." This verse refers to the same woman of verse two, which is the nation of Israel, who was in labor for the birth of the child. But now she has brought forth the male child, who is Jesus Christ. It says that the child is to rule all nations with a rod of iron. This refers to the power of Jesus Christ to rule with absolute authority. In the end, every knee shall bow and every

tongue shall confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, that he is ruler of all. In addition, this verse also states that he was caught up to God. This refers to his ascension to heaven after his resurrection. And, by the way, these words which refer to Jesus being “caught up” are from the Greek word, *Harpazo*, which means catching up, or catching away. This is where the term “rapture” is coined, in that to be raptured is to be transported from one place to another, especially in the sense of being transported to heaven. Rapture does not mean that it is a pre-tribulation transport, but only that when Jesus comes in the clouds of heaven that he will gather all of his children together, and they also will be raptured, or caught up, to him, just as verse four says that Jesus himself was caught up to the Father.

Anyway, let's continue with Revelation 12, and read verse 6. It says, “And the woman fled into the wilderness, where she has a place prepared by God, that they should feed her there one thousand two hundred sixty days.” This, again, is referring to Israel, the nation from which Jesus Christ was born. Her flight into the wilderness is a reference to God's provision for that nation until the time of the end after the times of all the nations of the earth are fulfilled. In essence, the nation of Israel as a whole rejected Jesus Christ as Messiah. Although some of the Jews accepted Jesus, most of them did not. However, by Israel's rejection of the Messiah, the way was made for the Gentiles to be grafted into the tree.

What I mean by this is that in symbolic language, Israel had been the original chosen people of God. They are referred to as a tree, which is generally used in scripture to symbolically describe a single nation. Israel was the great tree, and the kingdom of Israel grew up exceedingly tall and branched out. At times this tree was so great that it provided shade for many nations, such as in the time of Solomon's kingdom. However, when Israel rejected and crucified Jesus Christ, most of the branches of this tree were cut off. This means that Israel was destroyed as a nation, and its power was gone. However, it was not entirely destroyed, for the root of Israel's tree is still there. The apostle Paul describes Israel this way, as the root of the tree, and we gentiles as wild olive branches which were grafted into that original root. This doesn't mean that Israel has any righteousness without believing in Jesus Christ as the Messiah, but means that Israel was taken away as a nation until such time as the other nations of the world have their day. That's exactly what is taking place at this current time. We Christians are not necessarily Jewish. Some Christians are, but most Christians are made up of gentiles. And, just in case some of you were wondering, the term gentile just refers to nations of the earth. In Biblical terminology, a gentile is someone who is not a Jew. They are from the other nations of earth, and not from the nation of Israel. So, if you are not a Jew, then you are automatically a gentile. Most Christians have this gentile heritage rather than a Jewish heritage.

Now, notice that in Revelation 12:6 the woman, which is Israel, is being taken out of the picture for the next 1,260 days. This is because she had fulfilled her purpose. What this means is that God had chosen Israel to be an example to the world by living under the Law of Commandments, and thereby demonstrating two things. One thing that was demonstrated through Israel was that man was continuously sinful by nature. The Law of Moses accurately

demonstrated this. It was through the Law that mankind is condemned, for the Law clearly described the righteousness of God and the sinfulness of man. The second thing that the Law accomplished was to demonstrate that no man could keep the Law perfectly. Therefore, it became known finally that there could be no salvation apart from the atoning blood of Jesus Christ. It was at this time that the purpose of Israel came to a temporary end. I say temporary, because their purpose is not entirely finished. Let me explain this part more specifically.

The times of the gentiles, as referred to in Luke 21:24, began in A.D. 70 when the Roman General, Titus, came and destroyed Jerusalem. Now, A.D. 70 is an important date in history. Not so much that Rome's general destroyed Jerusalem itself, but also because along with the destruction of the city, the temple of the Jews was also destroyed. It was torn down, with not one stone being left on top of another. This was the symbolic end of the Jewish nation, as well as the Jewish religion. Without a temple, Israel could not practice the worshiping of God. This is because, according to the Law, no Israelite was to worship God in any other place except in Jerusalem where God had put his name. The Jews were driven out of Jerusalem, and became wanderers for almost 1900 years. It wasn't until 1948 that the Jews were able to return to their former land and that Israel was once again proclaimed as a nation. This was what Revelation 12:6 is referring to as God's provision of a place for Israel where she would be fed for 1,260 days in the wilderness. This is also referred to in verses 13-14. Let me read these verses. It says, "And when the dragon saw that he was cast onto the earth, he persecuted the woman who brought forth the male child. 14 And to the woman was given two wings of a great eagle, that she might fly into the wilderness, into her place, where she is nourished for a time, and times, and half a time, from the face of the serpent." Now, a time, times, and half a time is the same thing as the 1,260 days referred to in verse 6. They both refer to period of three and a half years. However, as we well know concerning these times of prophecy, it cannot be accurately determined what the times actually mean. To say the least, the time does not actually mean three and a half years. But I might make a suggestion here. In my opinion, for what it's worth, I believe the three and a half years, 1260 days, or time, times, and a half of time is referring to the second half of God's overall plan which finds it's perfection in the number seven. The first half of the seven was God's Old Testament, and the second half of the seven is the New Testament. I believe what we are seeing is the time of the gentiles, in which the Jews do not play a prominent part, just as in the Old Testament the gentiles did not play a prominent part. Of course, this is only my opinion. You can make your own judgment for this.

Anyway, consider that Israel has been provided a place of hiding for the last couple of thousand years, and now the times of the gentiles are coming to an end, or possibly have come to an end. In the sense that Luke 21:24 speaks of the times of the gentiles as being the time that Jerusalem is walked on by the other nations of the earth, this has taken place. Since 1948 it is Israel which has once again treading on the streets of Jerusalem, yet not completely, since the Muslims still occupy much of it, and especially the temple mount where the temple of God formerly stood.

Now, returning to Revelation 12:13-14, and looking also at verses 15-16, we see that Satan persecutes the woman who has brought forth the male child. She escapes into the wilderness, and then the serpent, which is Satan, attempts to completely destroy the woman. He casts out of his mouth a flood like water in order to destroy her. Of course, God's provision for Israel continues, for he causes the earth to swallow up the flood, and by this Israel escapes annihilation. This flood from the mouth of Satan which appears as a flood of water, is a great torrent of lies. The Bible uses water to denote knowledge. However, in scripture, the truth of God is referred to as pure water, and the lies of Satan are referred to as contaminated water.

Water is a significant symbolic term. The truth of God is described variously as a pure river of water issuing out from the throne room of God, or, as wells of living water, springing up from the ground. It is also described as the fresh cold water that comes from the melting snows of the mountains. But Satan's lies are not described as pure water. His lies are described Biblically as oceans that heave and toss themselves at the higher ground. His waters are muddy, and they cause the dust of the earth to turn into quaggy mire which will cause men to become stuck. In the story of Peter walking on the water, we see the waters described as boisterous waves which bring doubt. Peter's faith was destroyed when he saw the waves boisterous, and he began to sink. This is a reference to being drowned in Satan's sea of destruction. His sea of lies will destroy the truth of God.

In the beginning, when God created the heavens and the earth, he created a firmament. A firmament is an expanse. It is an opening between two things in which you can see. It is a space that has opened up. This was the separation which took place between the two kinds of waters, which was actually a separation between the truth of God and the lies of Satan. You can find this reference in Genesis 1:6 where it says that God spoke the firmament into existence in order to separate the waters from above from the waters which were below.

So, in this sense, what issued out of Satan's mouth like a flood were lies which were calculated to bring hatred against Israel in order to bring about her destruction. There never has been such a torrent of lies spread about any nation more so than about Israel. In every nation under earth, the Jews have been downgraded and tormented because of the lies spread by Satan. And, for that matter, I might add that the lies have been spread even by Christians and so-called Christians. Yes, Israel certainly did reject the Messiah, and yes they certainly did crucify him. However, as we see in Romans 11:25, the blindness of Israel is only temporary until the times of the gentiles are fulfilled. When exactly the scales will fall from Israel's eyes and they recognize Jesus Christ as being the true Messiah, we still do not know at this time. However, we do have the scripture of Zechariah 12:10-14 which shows us that at some future time, Israel, at least those of Israel who truly are looking for their Messiah, will finally recognize that Jesus Christ was the Messiah, and that they have actually crucified the one they were looking for. It will be a realization on the part of those Jews who's eyes have been blinded. This is what the apostle Paul is referring to when he says that blindness has taken place in part until the fulness of the gentiles has come in. I believe there will be a time for Israel when the scales will fall off of their eyes and they will suddenly realize that Jesus was that true Messiah. The

acceptance will not come from every Jew, but only from those whose eyes are opened by God. At that time, they will mourn for the one they have rejected and killed. It will be the biggest revival for Jews for Jesus that the world has ever seen. And also, it will be at this time that the Great Tribulation, the great persecution of Christians, will come to an end.

Now, in order to follow this train of thought about Israel we have skipped some verses of Revelation 12, and we must go back to verses 7 through 12 as well as chapter 13 and the first 13 verses of chapter 14. However, we are out of time for this week and will have to pick up here next time for part two of Revelation's synopsis of endtime events. I hope you can be with us.

Part 2

Hello! Thanks for being with us. Welcome back to part two of Revelation's synopsis of end time events. Last week we started looking at the synopsis of events which starts with Revelation 12:1, and continues through Revelation 14:13. This is the part that sometimes trips people up when they're trying to understand the order of events for the last days. As I explained last week, Revelation 12:1 through Revelation 14:13 interrupts the flow of the seven Seals, the seven trumpets, and seven vials. The synopsis, which means a short overview, begins with the historical event of Christ's birth and ends as the second coming of Jesus Christ is just about to happen. John, who wrote the book of Revelation, stopped his overview of end time events just prior to describing the second coming of Jesus Christ. In the synopsis, he quickly reviews the birth of Jesus, the rebellion of Satan and the wicked angels, the casting out of Satan from heaven, and his warfare against the Israelites and the Christians. This all takes place in chapter 12. Chapter 13 describes the beginning of Satan's rebellion in which the selfish animalistic sin nature rose up in opposition against the righteous nature of God. Chapter 13 not only deals with the rising up of the sin nature, but also the subsequent destruction of souls through the miraculous inventions of science and technology, which includes the image of the beast which is created by the people of earth. Chapter 13 also includes a description of the mark of the beast. Chapter 14 speaks of the approaching coming of Christ with warnings concerning the worshiping of the beast or his image, and the receiving his mark. It also very plainly refers to the falling of Babylon, which is, of course, Great Babylon, the spiritual city, inhabited by the wicked.

The end of the synopsis is the 13th verse of chapter 14, and with verse 14 we see the wonderful description of Jesus Christ appearing in the clouds of heaven and the redemption of the Saints. This synopsis, this overview of events, is important, especially to those who have difficulty understanding the complete history. Yet, as with the rest of Revelation, chapters 12 through 14 are filled with symbolism. Hopefully, as we continue our study of Revelation's synopsis, some of the symbolism will become more clear to you. Anyway, let's continue the study where we left off last week. Last week we covered all of chapter 12 except for verses seven through 12. And just a reminder, if you would like the complete series of this synopsis of Revelation, please feel free to contact us and ask for it. There is no charge for the CDs. The written form

is also available, and is automatically included with the CDs. Listen at the end of the program and Kim will provide you with the addresses.

So, let's continue, and I'll read Revelation 12, verses 7 through 12. It says, "And there was war in heaven: Michael and his angels fought against the dragon; and the dragon fought and also his angels, 8 And they did not prevail; neither were they found anywhere in heaven anymore. 9 And the great dragon was cast out, that old serpent, called the Devil, and Satan, who deceives the whole world: he was cast out into the earth, and his angels were cast out with him. 10 And I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, Now has come salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of his Christ: for the accuser of our brethren is cast down, who accused them before our God day and night. 11 And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb, and by the word of their testimony; and they loved not their lives unto the death. 12 Therefore rejoice, you heavens, and you that dwell in them. Woe to the inhabitants of the earth and of the sea! For the devil has come down to you, having great wrath, because he knows that he has only a short time."

The six verses I just read portray spiritual warfare between Michael the archangel and the righteous angels, and Satan and his evil angels. If there is any doubt that Satan is the serpent, and also the Dragon, this verse completely clarifies it. Now, the different names mentioned here are names which are used at different times throughout the Bible to describe Satan symbolically according to the type of action in which he is involved. Let's take some time and look at the various names for Satan and what each different name implies. First of all, scripture uses the name, Satan, to indicate that he is the great enemy of God. Great enemy is actually what the term Satan means. He is a great enemy because his rebellion is against all that is good, which includes God and all those who desire God's goodness for themselves. Satan's rebellion is a rebellion against God, who is good, who is righteous, who is loving, who is compassionate. Satan's rebellion is in the form of an alternative belief which rejects God's word as the only existing truth. Satan is not mounting a war against God with actual physical weapons, but with the spiritual weapon of lies. Satan is a liar, and his intention is to convince everyone that God is not right in all things, and that Satan himself can be considered as right. This is a rebellion against righteousness. God is right and true, and therefore Satan's intent is to destroy God by destroying truth. Satan's lies are his spiritual weapon that destroys the truth of God.

It's interesting to see this same aspect of Satan's attempt to destroy truth in the book of Daniel. In Daniel 8:12 and also in Daniel 9:26, we can see the prophecy which foretells the death of Christ at the hands of Satan's wicked system. Daniel 8:12 says, "And a host was given him against the daily sacrifice by reason of transgression, and it cast down the truth to the ground; and it practiced, and prospered." And, Daniel 9:26 says, " And after sixty two weeks Messiah will be cut off, but not for himself: and the people of the prince that shall come shall destroy the city and the sanctuary; and the end of it shall be with a flood, and unto the end of the war desolations are determined."

These two scriptures show how Satan worked in the hearts of evil men and caused the death of Christ, thereby casting the truth down to the ground. It's important to recognize that Jesus Christ is the Word of God. Therefore, by Satan casting Jesus Christ down, God's word was actually cast down. However, we know that Jesus Christ overcame Satan by rising from the grave on the third day. It was by the death of Jesus, and his victorious resurrection, that Satan was cast out of heaven and bound to the earth. And this is what Revelation 12:8-9 reveals to us. By the death and resurrection of Jesus, the power of Satan to go before God and accuse God's children of wickedness was destroyed. To Christians, understanding that Satan could no longer be the accuser is of great importance. So let me explain what actually took place with this heavenly battle.

When Jesus died, he brought an end to the Law of Commandments. And it was through the Law of Commandments that Satan had so great a hold on the Israelites. Under the Law, if any Israelite sinned, Satan could go before God in heaven and accuse that man of his sin. And it was the Law of Commandments which condemned that man as a sinner. You see, the real problem of the Law of Commandments was that no man could be considered righteous in the eyes of God, for as it says in Romans 3:23, "all have sinned and come short of the glory of God."

Of course, it seems like such a simple thing to realize that we are all sinners. However, have you ever realized the implications of that? If you're a sinner, then you have no right to enter into the presence of God. If you're a sinner, you are cast out of the presence of God forever. What this implies is that Satan wins you. You become his. You are then marked as belonging to Satan. It is only by God's deliverance through the blood of Jesus Christ that we are freed from the ownership of Satan. The writer of the book of Jude refers to this same concept of a person belonging to either Satan or God. Jude, verse 9, refers to the dispute between the Devil and Michael the Archangel for the body of Moses. And, this same dispute took place for each and every person on earth when they died. If you were considered a sinner, you belonged to Satan, and if righteous, you belonged to God. Now, think about this. When the Law of Commandments convicted a person of sin, that person was condemned. Under the Law Satan was able to go before God and accuse any person of sin. And, because that person was convicted of sin by the Law of Commandments, they were prohibited from entering into the presence of God. Therefore, Satan immediately became owner of that person. God is the king of all those who are righteous, but Satan is the king over all those who are sinners.

It was this terrible chain of being in bondage to Satan which had to be broken. And Jesus broke those chains of bondage by his death and resurrection on the cross. Jesus Christ died in righteousness, a person who had kept the whole Law of Commandments perfectly. By doing this, he fulfilled the Law of Commandments. Once it was fulfilled, it was no longer in force. The Law had fulfilled its purpose by showing that all men were sinners. It had also demonstrated that each and every one of the sinners were pulled away from God and given to the prince of darkness. By the death of Jesus Christ the Law was fulfilled. It was no longer in force. Therefore, Satan could no longer come before God and accuse his people of being sinners. This was because he had nothing with which to prove that a man was a sinner. As the

apostle Paul says in Romans 4:15, “where no law is, there is no transgression.” He also says in Romans 5:13, that before the Law came, sin was in the world, but no one was charged with sin. In essence, Satan had no right to claim sinners as his own before the Law came into effect. Men were still sinners prior to the Law, but were not condemned. The Law brought the condemnation, and the punishment of sinners is to be cast out of the presence of God forever. Therefore, the only way into the presence of God was by being set free from the Law of Condemnation and brought into the Law of Grace. It was this end of the Law of Commandments which effectively stopped Satan from coming before God and accusing his people. He could no longer accuse them because there was no Law to be broken. In essence, Satan was cast out of the presence of God, for he had no opportunity to bring the accusation of sin into heaven anymore. Because Jesus had lived the law perfectly, giving God the perfect sacrifice for sins, the Law was fulfilled, it was completed, and now there was no Law to condemn sinners. And, in place of the Law of Commandments, the new Law of Grace was established, by which men could enter into God's presence if they truly believed God's word. This was the new covenant of faith, which replaced the old covenant of the Law. By the establishing of the covenant of grace, Satan could no longer accuse. Sin was still in the world, and in man's flesh, but the Law was no longer in effect, therefore mankind could not be accused of breaking it. As we look again at Revelation 12:10 and 11, we can now see that these verses refer to Satan as the accuser of the brothers in Christ, and that he was no longer able to come before God and accuse us. He was cast out of heaven, out of the presence of God, and we who believe in God and in his Christ are set free from Satan's right to ownership. Satan is only king over sinners. God is king over the righteous.

Now, this casting of Satan out of the realm of heaven was also prophesied in another portion of the Old Testament. Let me read Ezekiel 28:15-16. It says, “You were perfect in your ways from the day that you were created, until iniquity was found in you. 16 By the multitude of your merchandise they have filled everything around you with violence, and you have sinned: therefore I will cast you, as profane, out of the mountain of God: and I will destroy you, O covering cherub, from the midst of the stones of fire.”

These verses refer to Satan as being cast out of the mountain of God. And in the New Testament we read from the book of John where the same thing is referred to. John 12:27-31 says, “Now is my soul troubled; and what shall I say? Father, save me from this hour: but for this purpose I came to this hour. 28 Father, glorify your name. Then there came a voice from heaven, saying, I have both glorified it, and will glorify it again. 29 The people therefore, that stood by, and heard it, said that it thundered: others said, An angel spoke to him. 30 Jesus answered and said, This voice did not come because of me, but for your sakes. 31 Now is the judgment of this world: now shall the prince of this world be cast out.”

It is important to realize that Revelation 12:10, when referring to Satan being cast down from heaven onto the earth, refers to him as the accuser of the brethren, who accused them day and night before God. This act of accusing God's people was possible through the Law of Commandments, but not through the Law of Grace. As Paul said, If there is no Law, then there is no condemnation. When we were freed from the condemnation of the Law of

Commandments, we were freed from it because Satan could no longer accuse us of sin. Now, as Revelation 12:11 says, we have overcome the bondage of Satan through the blood of Jesus Christ. Now there is no way for Satan to condemn us.

However, the danger of being accused by Satan can still be a threat to us in one way. And that way is this. If anyone attempts to be obedient to God by keeping the Law of Commandments, they will bring themselves under this Law of sin and death once again. Satan will once again be able to bring accusation against them. Therefore, if we have been set free from the Law, we must be careful not to put ourselves back into that place of bondage again by trying to be justified by keeping the Law. In the beginning of the early church there was a great effort on the part of the Jews to force the new Christians back into keeping the Law. But as we read in the New Testament in the book of Acts, the apostles soon made it clear that those who were under the new covenant of grace were no longer under the Law. Paul says in 1 Corinthians that the Law, which was written in tables of stone, was done away when Jesus fulfilled its purpose. The new Law of Grace which superseded the Law of Commandments is not a system of keeping certain days as holy, or of abstaining from certain meats, but is a Law of God's goodness which is now written on the fleshy tables of our hearts, and not on tables of stone as were the ten commandments.

Under the new Covenant of Grace, we overcome, as Revelation 12:11 tells us, by the blood of Jesus, not by the works of the Law. And in this same 11th verse, we have further explanation of what it takes to complete our service to God after our initial salvation by faith. We see it in the last line of verse 11, which says, "and they loved not their lives, unto the death." This means that faith is not the only component of God's Law of Grace. Salvation comes just by believing, but the demonstration of that belief must be confirmed through daily self-sacrifice. There must be not only faith, but works must follow. Without dying out to the flesh and living according to God's divine influence, we have not demonstrated that we truly do embrace God's word. We are not to love our lives. We are not to try to preserve our earthly lives, but rather to become a daily sacrifice unto God. When we finally cease to do our own will, and begin to concentrate on God's will, then our confession of faith is finally confirmed. However, we do these works, not because they are written on tablets of stone, but because God moves our hearts to do his will. And it is the Holy Spirit of God, which now resides in his children and reveals the true will of God to us.

It is most important to understand the difference between the Law of Commandments, which was written on tablets of stone, and the Law of Grace, which is written on the fleshy tablets of our hearts. We know quite well that words can be written on physical tablets in many ways. However, it is fairly simple to see that words written on the fleshy tablets of our hearts cannot be written there with pen and ink. When God's will is written on our hearts, it is only written there by the Holy Spirit. And the Holy Spirit can only write God's commandments in our hearts if we let him come into our hearts. And of course, this is not a physical thing, but a spiritual thing. This is what is meant by the Law of Grace.

The word, Grace, is a term that is often misused in this current day church. But the term Grace actually means, the divine influence. Divine means that which is heavenly, as in the God of heaven. And because God is good, then the influence from God is a good influence which comes to us by the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit of God resides in God's children and brings God's influence into their hearts. When we receive the influence from God to do good works, we do them, not because of a written Law on paper. It is the Holy Spirit, which was promised by Jesus Christ to all those who believe God's word, which tells us what God's will is for our lives. So many people, even many people within the Christian church, do not understand the difference between the Law of Commandments and the Law of Grace. Under the Law of Commandments, there was no Holy Spirit to move us. It was only a system of Laws. But now, under grace, which means being under the direct influence of God through his Holy Spirit, we are guided into all truth and this truth includes God's will for our lives.

Many modern day Christians try to imply that without the written laws of, "do this, or don't do that," that people would be free to do anything they want to do, and could actually sin all they wanted. Actually, this is true in one sense, but just think about the person who rejects the leading of God's Holy Spirit. God has taken away the Law of Commandments, but he has established another law in our hearts. If we ignore that law within us, then we have essentially rejected God himself. It is the Holy Spirit which reveals God to us, and who reveals God's will to us. If we do not allow God to influence us according to his will, we have rejected the word of God and cannot be considered to be believers. We humans always reject what we think is bad, and we embrace to ourselves that which we think is good. If anyone resists the influence of God through his Holy Spirit, they have demonstrated that they do not really care that much for God himself. The Law of Grace, which directs our actions by God's divine influence, is totally opposite from the way the Israelites obeyed God when they were under the Law of Commandments. Under the covenant of grace, we no longer follow written words on paper or stone, but words which are written on our hearts by God, through the influence of his Holy Spirit. If you are led by a set of rules, then you are not under the covenant of Grace, but are under a written law. There is no salvation through the Law. The only salvation we have comes by faith in God, and in God's word of his son, Jesus Christ. It is only when we believe God's influence that we find acceptance in God's eyes. This is why Romans 8:14 says, "For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God."

Well, we'll have to stop here. We're out of time. Next week we'll talk more of the serpent concept of Satan which is referred to in Revelation 12:9, and then, hopefully, we'll continue into Revelation 13 and 14. This portion of scripture from Revelation 12:1 through Revelation 14:13 is packed full of wonderful information. However, some of the concepts in these chapters are difficult to understand, so we'll have to go beneath the surface in order to dig out everything that God wants to give us. Hopefully, our long look at Revelation's short synopsis will be helpful in one way or another.

Part 3

Hello! Thanks for being with us. Welcome back to part three of Revelation's synopsis of end time events. Last week we finished up with Revelation 12, and this week we'll start with chapter 13. My specific purpose for describing the events and prophecies of chapter 13 is that it is part of John's synopsis which starts at Revelation 12:1, and ends with Revelation 14:13. As you read Revelation, you can follow the order of end time events quite easily, and with less confusion, if you realize that chapters 12 and 13, and the first 13 verses of chapter 14, are a synopsis of events from the time of the birth of Christ up to his second coming. This means that John has stopped momentarily in his discourse at Revelation 11:19, and gone back to the time of the birth of Christ and touched on the spiritual aspects in a historical sense. Then, when he finishes the short overview up until the time of the seventh trumpet once again, he continues with Revelation 14:14 at the point where he had previously left off in Revelation 11:19. So, when you're reading in the book of Revelation, and you're trying to understand its order, try jumping over the synopsis and go right from Revelation 11:19 to Revelation 14:14. When you do this the flow of events won't be interrupted and you can see the order of events more clearly.

In fact, I'll do this for you. Let me read to you from Revelation 11, and when I come to Revelation 11:19, I'll jump over the synopsis and go directly to Revelation 14:14. When you listen to me reading, you may be able to see the difference and also how the order of events flows much better. I'm going to start reading in Revelation 11:15, and read through verse 19, and then, instead of reading the synopsis of Revelation 12:1 through Revelation 14:13, I'll jump directly from Revelation 11:19 over to Revelation 14:14 and continue reading there through verse 16. O.K.? So here goes, starting with Revelation 11:15, it says, "And the seventh angel sounded; and there were great voices in heaven, saying, The kingdoms of this world have become the kingdoms of our Lord, and of his Christ; and he shall reign for ever and ever. 16 And the twenty-four elders, which sat before God on their seats, fell upon their faces, and worshiped God, 17 Saying, We give you thanks, O Lord God Almighty, who is, and was, and is to come; because you have taken to yourself your great power, and have reigned. 18 And the nations were angry, and your wrath has come, and the time of the dead, that they should be judged, and that you should give reward to your servants the prophets, and to the saints, and to those who fear your name, small and great; and shall destroy those who destroy the earth. 19 And the temple of God was opened in heaven, and there was seen in his temple the ark of his testament: and there was lightning, and voices, and thundering, and an earthquake, and great hail." Now, skipping directly over to Revelation 14:14, it says, "And I looked, and behold, a white cloud, and upon the cloud one sat like the Son of man, having on his head a golden crown, and in his hand a sharp sickle. 15 And another angel came out of the temple, crying with a loud voice to him that sat on the cloud, Thrust in your sickle, and reap: for the time is come for you to reap; for the harvest of the earth is ripe. 16 And he that sat on the cloud thrust in his sickle on the earth; and the earth was reaped."

Well, did you see what I mean? The order of events goes from the sounding of the seventh trumpet in Revelation 11:15 and directly into the second coming of Jesus Christ in Revelation

14:14. It is Jesus Christ who sits on the cloud, and it is Jesus who thrusts in his sickle and harvests his people. This is why Paul says in 1 Corinthians 15:52 that the dead in Christ shall be raised at the last trump. As we read Revelation 11:15, and the seventh trumpet sounds, which is the last trumpet of Revelation, then the very next event that takes place is Christ appearing in the clouds of heaven and we are taken up to meet our Lord in the air. But the order of events is difficult to understand without realizing that Revelation 12:1 through Revelation 14:13 is just a short overview which John gives at that time. John's explanation of events has continued right up until the time of Christ's second coming in the clouds of heaven when the seventh trumpet blows. At that time John goes back and gives a short synopsis of all the preceding events from Christ's birth up to this same point of time at which the second coming of Jesus will take place. After John gives the synopsis, then he continues in Revelation 14:14 with the actual description of the second coming and of the harvest of the righteous people by Jesus, and also, of course, with the harvest of the wicked people of earth by the angel with the other sickle.

But when we recognize John's synopsis of historical and spiritual events, and that it is just a short overview in which he goes back and brings the readers up to date, it helps us to understand the whole of Revelation by putting the historical events in order, and also by giving some very good symbolic descriptions concerning Satan and his diabolical actions. So now, as we begin an explanation of Revelation 13, please realize that chapter 13 is part of the short synopsis, which gives us a historical view of both physical and spiritual things. And as we continue through this series, try to get a feel for what is taking place in the world overall in the spiritual warfare between good and evil. And, as I said, this is part three of the series. Please feel free to request any part of the series or the complete series. It comes on compact disc and in written form, and it is free for the asking. Listen at the end of the program and Kim will give you the addresses.

Alright, let's go ahead and start reading in Revelation 13, and I'll start by reading the first two verses. It says, "And I stood upon the sand of the sea, and saw a beast rise up out of the sea, having seven heads and ten horns, and upon his horns ten crowns, and upon his heads the name of blasphemy. 2 And the beast which I saw was like a leopard, and his feet were like the feet of a bear, and his mouth was like the mouth of a lion: and the dragon gave him his power, and his ruling seat, and great authority."

This is John's introduction to the first beast. Now, notice something important right here. It can really help you to understand the prophecy of Revelation, as well as all Bible prophecy. Notice that John refers to both the Dragon and the beast as both having seven heads and ten horns. In Revelation 12:3 he describes the Dragon as having these seven heads and ten horns, and in Revelation 13:1 he describes this first beast as also having seven heads and ten horns. Now, at first it may seem as though the Dragon and the beast are the same thing. However, if we jump over to Revelation 16:13, we see something interesting. Revelation 16:13 says, "And I saw three unclean spirits like frogs come out of the mouth of the dragon, and out of the mouth of the beast, and out of the mouth of the false prophet." Here is John's description which indicates that the dragon and the beast are two separate things. At first, it seems

confusing because here in chapter 16 the dragon and the beast are two separate things, but at the same time they are described in chapters 12 and 13 as being the same thing. However, the confusion can easily be removed. What we need to realize here is that John is referring to Satan in his many forms. In part one of this series I talked about the different names of Satan, and how the Bible uses the different names to describe a certain quality of Satan. When the Bible uses a name other than the actual name of a person, it is a symbolic term which describes the actions of the person. So, when the Bible uses the name 'Dragon', it is symbolically describing Satan in his monstrous serpent perspective, as when he deceived Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden. And when it uses the name, Beast, it is describing Satan from his wild animal nature, which is the sin nature which is opposed to the righteous nature of God. It is still Satan, whether described as a Great Red Dragon, a Serpent in the bottom of the Sea, the Beast, or even the false prophet, but the different names are just descriptive of Satan's influence and how that influence affects the people of earth. Satan, of course, is evil. And all of the names for Satan describe his evilness. But by using a different name to describe Satan each time, the Bible gives a different perspective of how he is working his evil works in both the spiritual realm and in the earthly realm.

This concept is the same concept as when we attempt to describe the three part Godhead. God is God, but is also called the Father. Jesus is God, but is also called Christ. Jesus is also called the Son of God, even though he is God. Jesus is called Savior, King of Kings, Prince of Peace, and many other names, but each name represents a different facet of Jesus. When God is referred to as both Father and as Son, and as both Almighty God and as Savior of the world, it helps us to know him better. By the use of different names, the personal attributes of God are more clearly shown. It is the same for the Bible's use of names for Satan. The name Dragon represents Satan, and so does the name Beast. We're just looking at different aspects of Satan which are symbolic, and which help us to understand the underlying concepts of this Prince of Darkness. So, when you read that the Dragon has seven heads and ten horns, and that the Beast also has seven heads and ten horns, but that the Dragon and the Beast are two separate things, then just realize that it is still Satan, but that the Bible is just referring to him in a symbolic way to help us understand what is really taking place under the surface.

Of course, all of this may not be obvious to you until you can gain a more complete overall perspective of the spiritual warfare that is going on involving the righteous nature of God and the sin nature of Satan. But anyway, let's continue with the description of the first beast. This first beast of Revelation 13 is really just an aspect of Satan's evilness. And the term beast is just a name which indicates the animal concept. In fact, the original Greek word for beast is, the-ri'-on, which just means an animal, or more specifically, a wild and ferocious animal. This first beast represents the sin nature of Satan. In the spiritual warfare between good and evil, there are two natures. The one nature is the righteous nature of God, and the other nature is the sin nature of Satan. These two natures are at enmity with one another. The word enmity means, a deep-seated and mutual hatred. Therefore, there is deep-seated and mutual hatred between the righteous nature of God and the sin nature of Satan.

The sin nature finds its true power on earth by working through mankind's flesh and blood bodies. On the other hand, God's righteous nature finds its true power by working through the Holy Spirit. This is why the Bible tells us that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of heaven, and that in order to inherit God's kingdom, we must be born again in Spirit. As the apostle Paul says in Galatians 5:17, "the flesh lusts against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh: and these are contrary the one toward the other: so that you cannot do the things that you want to."

Now, in considering animals as being examples of Satan's evilness, I'm sure you can recognize how we humans frequently refer to other humans who act in immoral or inhumane ways as being beasts. When someone acts in a base manner, we can well understand the phrase, "You beast, stop acting like an animal!" Human beings who lose their refinement for good morals and proper social behavior are many times referred to as brute beasts. Brute means, without reason, or without good sensible thought. Satan has been referred to as a beast from the beginning of time, even in the Garden of Eden.

When we recognize the beasts of Revelation as being the sin nature of the flesh, which is opposed to the righteous nature of God, then John's descriptions begin to be understood. This first beast which rises up out of the sea is the sinful animal nature that found a place in Satan at the beginning of his rebellion. Just as wild animals cannot act with good sensible thought, and just as they cannot comprehend the righteousness of God, Satan also rebelled against God, rejecting all that is righteous. What John is describing in Revelation 13:1 is the birth of iniquity. We know, of course, that Satan existed long before sin existed, and that at the time of his creation he was created in perfection. But we also know that at some point in time iniquity was found in him. This iniquity was the beginning of the sin nature, which the Bible describes as that nature of the flesh that humans are subject to. Satan chose to adopt this sinful nature when he chose to set aside good sensible thought and instead began to make claim to his own righteousness. From that time God began to refer to him with animal names because of his lack of using good reason. Satan's brutish actions earned him the animal names which appropriately describe his ignorance and evilness.

This same lack of reason causes human beings to embrace the sin nature also. When we reject the righteousness of God and begin to seek our own righteousness through our own power, we then become like animals who no longer have the ability to stand upright. In fact, being upright is a term we use to describe actions of righteousness. The reason we use the term upright is because God created man to stand upright on his two feet, and not to crouch down on all fours like an animal. To stand erect on our feet is the way God created mankind to be. But when we begin to act like animals, to act according to our base sinful nature of the flesh, then we are described as walking on all fours as animals walk. We can even take this one step further with the description of Satan in the Garden of Eden. Because of the deception of Adam and Eve, God decreed that the serpent should, from that point on, go on its belly. In a symbolic sense, this describes the serpent as the basest of animals, for he not only does not stand upright, he does not stand up at all. This means that of all the animals, Satan, from the aspect of the serpent's vile deceitfulness, is the lowest form of animal, and therefore moves on

his belly. This is why God refers to the serpent in the Garden of Eden as more deceptive than all the other animals. In other words, Satan's lies are not just brutishly insensible, but diabolical. His corruption of God's truth was more extreme than any other. He not only acted without reason, he acted without any good sensible thinking at all, and with purposeful intent on deposing God. He completely rejected all that is good from God and chose rather to embrace the sin nature in order to exalt himself. So when Satan acted deceitfully and introduced sin into the world, God referred to him not only as an animal, but as the basest of animals. It was this sin nature that John was referring to when he described the first beast of Revelation which rose up out of the sea.

Now, just for a moment, in order to make this concept of the animal nature as clear as possible, let's take a look at an example of the beast nature from the Old Testament. In the book of Daniel we have a description of Nebuchadnezzar, the King of Babylon, who was given an experience of becoming an animal and then returning to human status after he had learned that the God of Heaven is the all powerful God. Initially, King Nebuchadnezzar had claimed that his kingdom had been established strictly by his own power. He did not recognize that God was the supreme power, or that it was God who had established his kingship and his kingdom. In order to show Nebuchadnezzar who the real power was, God caused the King to be transformed into an animal for a period of seven years. After the seven years, God caused him to be transformed back into a man and to be returned to his position as king. Because of this experience, King Nebuchadnezzar became aware of God, and that he truly was the Almighty, All Powerful God of everything. It was this experience of being an animal for seven years which showed the king that without knowing God as the Almighty ruler of heaven and earth, a man was no more than an animal. Elsewhere in the book of Daniel King Nebuchadnezzar is described as being caused to stand upright on his feet, and that a man's heart was given to him. This is what God would like every man to do, to become aware of the knowledge that it is God who is the Almighty ruler of heaven and earth. However, it is specifically this truth that Satan refused to acknowledge. Satan rebelled, and began to claim that he himself was powerful, and that he himself could even exalt himself above the throne of God. When Satan rejected God's testimony of himself that he was the Almighty ruler of heaven and earth, and began to consider himself as equal with God, then in essence, he was acting as an animal by not using good sensible thought. He demonstrated an animal mentality, just as King Nebuchadnezzar had first demonstrated an animal mentality.

Now, if you would, I'd like you to look at verse 11 of this chapter, which refers to the second beast that John described. I'll read Revelation 13:11. It says, "And I saw another beast coming up out of the earth; and he had two horns like a lamb, and he spoke like a dragon." This second beast is also a symbol of the sin nature. However, this second beast is not nearly as powerful as the first beast. This second beast is only able to work through the people of earth because of their flesh and blood form. But the first beast, because it is the sin nature in Satan himself, is much more powerful. God himself describes Satan in Ezekiel 28:6, as being wiser than Daniel, and that there was no secret that anyone could hide from him. Because Satan was originally an anointed covering angel, and because he had access to God, and had walked, as the Bible says, among the stones of fire, he has great knowledge. In fact, when you

think about it, Satan has to have a tremendous amount of knowledge, otherwise he would not have had enough confidence to actually stand up against God himself. According to God's own description, Satan is a very powerful person. Because of this, the evil which can be accomplished through the actions of the sin nature is much greater in Satan than that which can be accomplished through the actions of humans in this same sin nature. This is why the second beast is described as having small horns like a lamb, rather than the description of seven heads and ten horns of the first beast. But like I said, both beasts describe the same sin nature, however, the sin nature of the first beast is much more powerful because it represents the actual working of Satan directly rather than the indirect workings of the sin nature through mankind.

Now, before we get into a description of the second beast, we need to take a look at the first beast again. However, we are once again out of time. We'll have to pick up here next week with more discussion of the Beasts of Revelation 13, and of the many prophetic insights that the apostle John has given us. And yes, I'm sure that much of this information may seem to be mind boggling. However, it is also exciting, and makes us even more expectant of the Lord's soon return. I look forward to the next part of this series, and I hope you do to.

Part 4

Hello! Thanks for being with us. Welcome back to part four of Revelation's synopsis of end time events. Last week we just got into Revelation 13, and talked about the first and second beasts of this chapter, but only in the sense of their sin nature, which the Bible refers to abundantly by animal terms. And it is this animal nature which best signifies the sin nature of Satan's rebellion. The first three parts of this study on John's synopsis of events describe this quite extensively, and those parts of our study may be helpful to you if you missed our program for the last three weeks. Remember that you can request part or all of the series on John's synopsis, and they are free. They come in CD form along with the written pages, and you can listen to the CDs or read the transcript of the messages, or, listen to the CDs and follow along with the written form at the same time. Anyway, feel free to request them. We offer them to you free of charge, and there is no shipping or handling costs. In addition, I'll remind you once again, you will not be sent mailings asking for donations. We don't ask for money, and we don't sell holy oil, religious trinkets, or offer the latest books for sending in a quote, a minimum donation, unquote. The only thing we would ask of you is prayer. If our program is a blessing to you, and if you would like our program to reach others, then please pray that God will provide what is necessary to expand our program to other radio stations. We would appreciate this very much.

Alright, let's continue with John's synopsis. We've already covered chapter 12 of Revelation and are now in chapter 13. Remember, John's synopsis goes from Revelation 12:1 through Revelation 14:13. When you're trying to understand the order of events of Revelation, it's helpful to skip over this synopsis and go directly from Revelation 11:19 to Revelation 14:14. Then the order of events fall into place quite well.

Now, let's look at the two beasts of Revelation 13 and see if we can get a good overall perspective of what they are. The first thing we need to focus on is where the two beasts originate from. Revelation 13:1 says that the first beast rises up out of the sea, and verse 11 says that the second beast rises up out of the earth. This difference may seem insignificant, but it isn't. Out of the sea and out of the earth are terms that are intended to show us how we can expect to see these events, whether they are spiritual things behind the scenes, or if they are physical things which humans can readily see. Out of the sea indicates spiritual forces of evil, and out of the earth indicates physical forces of evil. One thing that will help you to understand this better is to learn the symbolic meaning of the sea. The sea from which the first beast rises is equivalent with the abyss, and also refers to the pit. Whether it is the sea, the great abyss, or the pit, it still refers to that evil place which is separate from the light of God. Outside of God's presence there is no light. Sure, at this time humans still have the light from the sun, moon and stars, but when we refer to the spiritual aspect of the abyss, the sea, or the pit, what the Bible shows us is that this is a place reserved for all those who are in darkness, shut away from the light of God's word. When the apostle John described the first beast rising up out of the sea, he was describing a specific perspective of Satan's diabolical plan of wickedness for Earth. The beast that rises up out of the sea rises up out of this great abyss, the pit of darkness, and is also described as the sea because Satan's lies are a sea of destruction. In scripture waters are used to symbolize knowledge. However, the scripture also speaks of water which is pure, and there is water which is contaminated. The knowledge from God is God's word. It is pure, and therefore when the word of God is symbolized as water, it is referred to as pure water. Pure water issues out from the throne room of God, and is not contaminated by Satan's lies. And, it is through lies that Satan rebelled against God. The lies of Satan are in direct opposition to God's word.

Now, this may seem a little hard to comprehend, but try thinking about God's word as everything that he is, such as all powerful, almighty, a God of love, mercy, and kindness. These are attributes of God which God actually uses to describe himself. When you, as a Christian believe God, in a sense, what you are actually saying is, "You're right, God. You are all those things. You're not wrong, for everything you have said about yourself is true. Therefore, God, I believe you. Everything you have spoken is right." O.K., now think of what Satan's reply would be, when God claims to be all of these things. In essence Satan would say, "No, what you say is not true, God. What you speak about yourself is not right. What you say is wrong, because you say you are the Almighty God, and therefore you saying that it is only you who has any power. You are wrong, God, and not right, for I also have power, and I too can be mighty, and I can have that power in myself without you. Therefore, you are not right. You are wrong. For I am right according to what I say."

Now, this may seem like an odd conversation, but basically this is what the rebellion is all about. We who love God believe his word and agree that he is right. Therefore, because we believe he is right, we call him righteous. The word righteous means to be right. Satan doesn't believe God is righteous, because he doesn't believe God truly is what he claims to be. The whole battle of spiritual warfare is based on God's claim to being right, and to Satan's claim of being right. We know that this is illogical, for when it comes to a set of facts, they are either

right or wrong. Basically God said, "I am the Almighty God," and Satan says, "No, you're wrong. You're not almighty, for I'm mighty also by my own strength. Therefore I am right."

You must realize that Satan actually rose up in his own power, and therefore his claim to righteousness is to being right without the help of God. If Satan's claims were true, it would be impossible for God's claims to be true also. In the warfare between good and evil there must be an establishment of who is truly right and who is truly wrong. Of course, we know that God is right and Satan is wrong. But then, the wicked people of earth don't know that. The wicked don't really think that God is all that right. They like Satan, because they like the things that Satan offers through the temptations of the flesh. But, of course, they are deceived by Satan's lies. Satan is lying when he says that God is not right in all things, and in his rebellion he is attempting to convince the whole earth that God is not necessarily right in all things, and therefore is not necessarily the Almighty God. The lies of Satan are so great that they are described as a sea of water, and also other waters which are contaminated by contact with the earth's surface. The pure water of God's word is referred to as that which comes out from the throne room of God, or as rain from heaven, as the melting snows from a high mountain, or from springs or wells from beneath the surface of the earth. They are called well springs, or, springs of living water. But the waters which are attributed to Satan are referred to as contaminated waters.

Knowledge comes from two sources. Either it comes from God's mouth or it comes from Satan's mouth. The word of God is true knowledge, but we know that the word of Satan is a lie. The Bible calls Satan a liar, and the father of liars.

In the same sense that the word of God is described as water, Satan's word is also described as water. And, because Satan's lies are so extensive on the earth, his lies are described as a sea. The Bible refers to this sea of Satan as a sea of destruction which drowns men. Men are actually destroyed by the lies of Satan. However, the Bible uses the term sea to symbolically describe those lies. His lies are also described as rivers of the lowlands which cause the muck and mire of the earth. We know that the people of God are to set their feet on solid ground, and not in the muck and mire of the earth. The Bible describes Jesus Christ as being the solid rock on which his people stand, and opposite that concept is the sands of the sea which have no solid foundation. The Bible's parable of the foolish man who built his house on the sand, and the wise man who built his house on the rock, is meant to demonstrate the concept of the difference between lies and truth. We are to build our foundation on truth, and not try to establish our foundation on the lies of Satan, for if we do, we will eventually find ourselves sinking into the muck and mire of Satan's waters, and will soon be pulled into his sea of lies until the waters overwhelm us and we are drowned by them. This death is an eternal death. There is no escape once we are destroyed by Satan's sea of lies.

Now, the first beast is said to come up out of the sea. This means that the work of evil is accomplished through the lies of Satan, the water of his word, and these lies are his power source. But how he works is not seen with the natural mind. His work is carried out behind the scenes in a spiritual sense and cannot be perceived with the natural mind. However, the

workings of the second beast that rises up out of the earth can be perceived by the natural mind in that the work of this beast is carried out in a physical way. Satan's ways are not evident to humans directly, but he works deceitfully from the perspective of the spiritual realm. But in the second beast, the actual events are perceived with the natural mind. There is still deception involved, but the actual events are physically accomplished. This is because it is through humans that the second beast actually works. This also means that the events of the second beast can be seen by humans without having to be revealed by the Holy Spirit of God. Natural man can comprehend the works of the second beast, and the Holy Spirit is not needed to see it. Therefore, this work of the second beast is even seen by the wicked people of earth, but because of the deception, they do not realize that these physical events are ultimately destructive. To explain this more clearly, let me describe what the second beast actually does. O.K.? What I want you to see is that the second beast brings to pass actual physical events through human beings. The first major accomplishment of this second beast is that it performs the notable miracle of pulling down fire from heaven. This is described in Revelation 13:13. Although this chapter refers to the miracles of the second beast, notice that the only miracle which is specifically named as having been done by it is the miracle of pulling fire down from heaven in the sight of men.

Now, here is where the line is drawn between the second beast which is causing miracles on the earth, and the first beast which is the real power from behind the scenes. The work of the first beast is to deceive the people of earth through the working of the second beast. And the second beast is the outward manifestation of that work. This is why the second beast is actually referred to as the false prophet. But, hold onto that concept, and we'll discuss that part of the second beast later. For now, let's stay with the concept that the second beast is actually doing things on the earth which can be seen and understood by humans, without the need for understanding through spiritual revelation. And yes, I just mentioned that the first notable miracle of this second beast is pulling fire down from heaven, and you're probably wondering how this can be done in the physical sense instead of being a strictly spiritual event. Well, this is how it was done.

Experiments with electricity had been extensive, and reached their greatest experimental potential around 1752. At approximately that time, it was proven that lightning was indeed electrical. Of course, you and I have been around long enough in the modern world to know this. However, back then lightning was much less understood. Although scientific understanding was such that it knew lightning was equivalent to fire, it did not yet realize the connection between electrical current and fire. Now in order to comprehend the working of the second beast of Revelation 13, we must recognize that lightning is fire. In fact, the heat generated by lightning can sometimes approach 50,000 degrees Fahrenheit, which is about 5 times the temperature of the sun's surface. Clearly, the lightning is fire.

Now, here's where we begin to gain the overall perspective of the second beast. If you can comprehend this, this second beast is that influence in mankind which causes humans to search out and establish scientific inventions in an attempt to establish mankind's own power in the earth instead of seeking the power of God. In this perspective of the beast, Satan is attempting

to carry out his diabolical plan of convincing the people of earth that they can become like God and establish themselves in their own power, without looking to God for his help and provision. It is this portion of Satan's plan which actually catapults mankind into what we call the modern days of science and technology. It is the demise of horse and buggy days, and the beginning of man's first attempt at traveling to the stars and beyond, which includes a natural man's quest for immortality.

You may not be able to comprehend this, and that's fine. But if you want to have ears to hear, as the Bible says, then you'll want to understand that we are now in the days of the second beast, and the notable miracle of pulling fire down from heaven has already been accomplished. This single concept of man harnessing the fire of the heavens is tremendously significant to all the rest of the works of this second beast. As I said a minute ago, I want to explain what the work of this second beast is. And the harnessing of electricity is its first work. And, the purpose of this first accomplishment is so that mankind can have its own power source without God. This quest for power is a quest of the people of earth who have become convinced that this power can eventually bring immortality without it being given by God. It is Satan's lie to the people of earth, brought about by the working of the second beast, which is the sin nature which rose up in mankind. Of course, those of us who believe God know that the promise of Satan to deliver immortality is a false promise. However, many people believe this lie. I'm sure you yourself know of people around you who think that man will eventually be able to achieve immortality through the cloning of replacement parts or replacement bodies. This is becoming quite a common belief among those of the world who fall under the spell of Satan's lies. Even Christianity is endangered by the lies which spawn from scientific discovery, and many Christians are even becoming convinced that what the Bible says is not really true, but that the real plan of God is to set up a kingdom along earth guidelines instead of heavenly guidelines. You yourself have probably heard other people who claim to be Christians talk as if Jesus was only a good man, but that God might actually be quite far removed from mankind, and that science and technology is probably his way of making provision for man. It is a very deceptive set of lies that are permeating the world at this time.

And this extreme deception has been prophesied in scripture. We can see this in 2nd Thessalonians, chapter two, where it explains that Satan will oppose God and exalt himself, but that for a long time he will be hindered from going forth in the full extent of his power. 2nd Thessalonians 2:7 refers to the hindrance being removed. This is what has already taken place. What we are seeing in our current world is very different from what the world was like during the time of the other beasts. Satan is that diabolical wicked person, but his power was curtailed until these last days of modern science and technology. The lies of Satan are now so great and so extensive that there is less and less understanding of the things of God day by day, and day by day there grows a greater understanding of mankind's own power. This is why the Bible tells us in Matthew 24 that unless the established time table of God is shortened, no one would be saved, and even the very elect would be deceived.

We are the elect. We still love God, but the deception that Satan offers through the world is great. You may not have lost your faith in God, but I'm certain you can look around you and

recognize friends and loved ones which have turned away from their belief in God and in his Son, Jesus Christ, and have embraced the trappings of the world instead. This is what is taking place right now, and has been going on for over 250 years. The times are getting worse, and soon the Lord of heaven will stand up and put a stop to Satan, once and for all. But right now, the problem facing us is that as the deception continues to become greater and greater, those people who's faith is not as strong as yours is failing them. Satan is destroying the outskirts of the church. It is those people who gravitate to the fringe area of the church which are picked off by Satan. All it takes is to have a heart that begins to be less fervent for God, and sooner or later Satan is able to bring enough deception until they fall away in unbelief. We are seeing the great falling away, described in 2nd Thessalonians 2:3, right now.

But I would like you to notice what it is which really brings the final blow of destruction to those who turn away from the faith. In 2nd Thessalonians 2:10, it tells us that it is the lack of a love for the truth of God that does it, and of course this leads to their delusion and eventual death by being drowned in the sea of Satan's lies. When people cease to have a strong desire for the things of God, they are then allowed to choose their own path. It is then that God allows them to suffer strong delusion and to believe the lie of Satan.

The second beast of chapter 13 is also known as the false prophet which does miracles with power that he receives from the beast. In this sense, it is the people of earth who, through Satan's evil influence, search out and create the modern inventions of science and technology. 2nd Thessalonians 2:9 tells us that this period of time is a time when Satan is able to work with all power and signs and lying wonders. The second beast of Revelation 13 is the instrument by which these signs and lying wonders are carried out, because the second beast is working through the sin nature of humans. Therefore, it is the people of earth that actually create these inventions. This is why the second beast is said to rise up out of the earth, and not out of the sea. It is the people of earth that create the image of the beast, but only because of the diabolical influence of Satan through man's carnal nature, his beast nature.

The times we live in are times of Great Tribulation. Yes, we are in those times now. It isn't something that will come later, but we are experiencing it now. And this also is part of Satan's deception, for he works hard to ensure that no one really knows what evil is taking place behind the scenes. The church constantly looks for everything to be future, and never seems to realize that it is happening right now. The church, as a whole, cannot see very well. But if it could, then there would be no deception, and Christians would not be in danger of destruction by Satan's lies. And if Christians were not in danger, then there would be no reason for the Bible to give warning. But the Bible does give warning. And of course it also says, "he that has ears to hear, let him hear."

This is just a beginning of what the second beast is doing. There is much more, and next week I hope to explore with you what is actually happening in the world today and how the second beast is instrumental through it all. I really hope you can be with us then. And again, this series is available, so stay tuned, and Kim will give you the information you need.

Part 5

Hello! Thanks for being with us. Welcome back to part five of Revelation's synopsis of end time events. Last week in part four we talked about the difference of the first beast of Revelation rising up out of the sea and the second beast rising up out of the earth. As I said before, when the Bible describes the beast from the sea, or the beast from the earth, it is actually giving a symbolic description that describes that particular beast according to how its work is accomplished. In order to understand the work of the second beast, you need to recognize what is really taking place with its emergence out of the earth instead of out of the sea.

1 Peter 5:8 says that Satan, as a roaring lion, walks about the earth and seeks people to devour. Now, it's fairly plain to see that Satan is not a real physical lion. We can see that the Bible is using symbolism here to describe Satan's actions which are actually spiritual in nature and not physical. The actual work that Satan is doing is not seen outwardly with physical eyes, but must be discerned spiritually. But the second beast is not hidden from physical eyes. Its work is plainly evident to humans. In fact, the diabolical work that this second beast does is actually accomplished by the people of earth themselves, and therefore the rising of this second beast can be seen as coming up out of the earth. If you take a look again at Revelation 13:14, you may be able to see what I mean. It says that the second beast encourages those who dwell on the earth to make an image of the first beast.”

Notice that this is not something that Satan creates, but the people of earth actually create this image. This is the work of the second beast, in that this second beast is the spirit of evil which rises up in the people of earth themselves, and it is actually humans who begin to carry out the diabolical work of Satan. It is Satan's work, but work which is directed through both the first beast and through the second beast. However, this second beast does not become active until God allows it. This second beast only comes into the picture when God removes the hindrance to Satan and he is allowed to proceed with his wicked opposition to God without restraint. This hindrance, and the removal of this hindrance, is found in 2 Thessalonians, chapter 2. Satan is hindered from applying his complete force of deception until such time as the mystery of iniquity is to be exposed. The revealing of this mystery starts with the second beast, but is not fully accomplished until the sounding of the seventh trumpet. In order for the mystery to cease, Satan must be exposed. His diabolical plan of evil must be revealed to the world. Satan is the man of sin, the son of perdition, spoken of in these verses. The word, perdition, means destruction, or ruin. Satan is the one who is bringing ruin and destruction to earth by deceiving earth's people. Of course, Satan has always been tempting humans and deceiving them, in order to dethrone God and take his place. In Ezekiel 28, God speaks of Satan as one who is attempting to show himself as God. And all through the Bible God refers to Satan's actions in symbolic forms which describe him and his work of evil in the earth. But because most of the descriptions are symbolic, the great majority of Earth's people cannot see the many ways that Satan deceives mankind and the many ways in which he destroys.

For a long time God hindered Satan from working in his most powerful ways, and Satan was only allowed to operate within certain boundaries. But as it says in 2 Thessalonians 2:7, the hindrance was to be removed according to the time table that God has set. When the time came to begin revealing Satan's wickedness to the world, and that the whole mystery of iniquity was to be unraveled in order that the world might finally recognize the deception, God removed that which had held Satan back, and Satan went forth in the earth to kill and destroy with a vengeance. It is this second beast of Revelation 13 which symbolizes the end of the hindrance to Satan. It was at this time that the second beast was unleashed into the world. However, the work of the second beast is still deceptive to the people of earth, even though it is the people of Earth themselves who do the work of Satan. It is humans who build the structure which allows Satan to destroy intensely.

The mode of power used to create this structure is the power of science and technology. And through the discoveries of science and technology, a most important concept is presented to humans. And this concept, which was never before introduced to humans in the whole history of Earth, is the concept of mankind's own power to exalt himself, even to the point of being as God, and living forever. It is the concept of immortality which has been suggested to the people of Earth, and the spirit of antichrist has risen up even stronger than before. Antichrist means that which is in opposition to Christ. Jesus is the Word of God. Therefore antichrist is anti Word of God. Jesus is the Savior of mankind, and therefore, the spirit of antichrist suggests to the people of Earth that mankind can save themselves. Jesus is the promise of eternal life. Therefore, the spirit of antichrist suggests to the people that by the power of their own hands, they can develop the technology to extend their lives indefinitely. In short, through this second beast stage of his plan, Satan has introduced the hope to humans that there really is a fountain of life for humans, and that this fountain of life can be found by science and technology, without ever again having to depend on God.

But, most of the people of Earth cannot see what Satan is doing, and are ignorant of Satan's actual intent. Most people can't even see the dangers presented by modern inventions. No, I'm not suggesting that science and technology itself is bad. But the damage it can do when it is embraced more strongly than the embrace of godly things can destroy souls. But think about this. Scientific research continues to grow in volume and speed all the time. Notice that when this stage of Satan's plan first began, it was such a small thing. Sure, when electricity was first established, we had electric lights. But most people didn't think electric lights were much better than kerosene lamps. But then the lights got better. It was then discovered that electricity could cause a spark, and a spark could ignite fuel, and the ignited fuel could be released to drive a crankshaft, and the crankshaft could drive machinery. It was the electricity which could enable the combustion engine of automobiles and trucks to run, and airplanes to fly. It was electricity which could enable the communication of sound over long distances. It was electricity which could cause electronic circuitry to operate, thus making the way for computers. It was the fields of electricity which were at the very basis of every invention in the Earth, for the Earth and the universe are controlled by the positive and negative forces of electricity.

In short, the notable miracle of the second beast of pulling fire down from heaven was the miraculous invention which was not carried out behind the scenes in the spirit realm of Satan, but in the very physical realm of mankind himself. In this last and greatest deception of Satan, the beast, that sin nature of Satan, has risen up in the Earth itself. And now mankind has become the tool for their own deception. This deception, however, did not cease with the invention of automobiles or airplanes. It did not cease with the invention of electric lights, electric motors, or electric appliances. The deception has continued to increase at a greater and greater speed until we now see more new inventions of science on a day to day and week to week basis than we can ever keep up with. Inventions happen now at such great speed that most inventions are actually outdated before they have a chance to reach the marketplace.

But of all the inventions, there is one invention that stands out from all the rest. No, it is not the possibility of immortality through bio-technology, cell reconstruction, or cloning. Immortality is just the lie of Satan with which he deceives the people. It is not that mankind could not at some time accomplish the feat of cloning human bodies as replacements for the ones that fail us if given enough time. This is not actually an impossibility. In fact, God himself has said that mankind, if left alone, would be able to accomplish anything they imagined to do. He said this when speaking of the people who were building the Tower of Babel. In Genesis 11:6, it says, "And the LORD said, Behold, the people are one, and they have all one language; and this they begin to do: and now nothing will be restrained from them, which they have imagined to do." Here is God himself making a very powerful statement, and saying that mankind was able to accomplish anything that he could imagine. However, it is God who will stop mankind from becoming all powerful. It is God who will remain as the Almighty God. It is not humans who will take over the kingdom of God, and it is not Satan who will sit as their king. The writer of Ecclesiastes made an interesting statement. Ecclesiastes 7:29 says, "Behold, this only have I found, that God has made man upright; but they have sought out many inventions."

The inventions of mankind are many, but the greatest invention of man is the one that Revelation 13:14 describes. This verse says that the second beast convinces those people who dwell on the earth to create an image of the first beast, the beast that rose up out of the sea. And, by the following scriptures in that passage we can plainly see that the image of the beast was created. And look closely at this bit of detail. Notice that the image of the beast was not created by Satan, and it was not created by the second beast, but was created by the people of earth. And by the power of this second beast, given to him by the first beast, he causes this image to have life and causes it to speak. One important fact though, the word used for 'life' for this image in the original is 'pneuma', which means breath, or spirit. It is not the same thing as a living soul, but still, it is something which appears alive just as humans, for it is spirited, it has movement. But this image is not an image of humans, but an image of the beast. It is a picture, an image, a portrayal of that which is the essence of the first beast. And the essence of the first beast is evilness. In short, this invention is none other than the projected images of television and movies. And it is an image which not only moves and speaks, but it portrays the absolute essence of the beast, for it is filled with filthiness. It is so filthy in it's basest projections that it will stupefy people. It will make them numb. It will destroy the life right out

of them. And this is what Satan intends that the abomination of desolation should do. But very few people, including Christians, realize that the abomination of desolation is the image of the beast nature which is portrayed in every imaginable way on the silver screen. Abomination means that which is filthy, in a wicked sense. The wickedness is filthiness which is far removed from a Holy Spirit of righteousness. The wickedness that television and movies show is supreme, for this image of the beast accurately reflects a picture of evil which is Satan himself.

Sure, at first, the images which came on the screens of televisions and movies were not quite as wicked as they are today. But as anyone who watches them knows, the stuff on the screen is pretty bad. Myself, I don't have a TV, and I don't watch movies. What you do is up to you. I would recommend that you toss out your TV and trash the movies, but you'll have to be the judge of that. However, as the mystery of iniquity becomes more and more revealed as we progress toward the end of time, you will probably see what I mean sooner or later. But if you want to protect your soul, it would be best for you to make a bold stand for Christ and toss everything out of your house that interferes with the true word of God.

You see, it is the word of God that Satan wants to destroy, because by destroying the word of God, Satan destroys not only God but you and me as well. In order to protect our faith in God it is necessary to put up a firewall between the world and our conscious mind. We can do this by refusing to let the lies of Satan enter in. No, we can't escape from this world, and we do have to be in the world in order to live. However, there is no law that says you have to invite the lies of Satan into your home. Satan is a liar. He lies to the whole earth, telling them that God is not really right in all things, and that God isn't really all powerful, and that Jesus Christ is not really what the Bible says he is. But more than these plainly evident lies, Satan uses the subtlety of TV and movies to insinuate things which are not plainly spoken. Just watching TV and seeing how the actors and actresses dress in the movies and sitcoms is enough to instill in people a dress code and also a moral code. If you watch TV and movies, then you are bombarded with examples of the sin nature on a constant basis. The sin nature is displayed on TV and movies by presenting images which present both words and actions which are contrary to righteousness.

Just think of this one aspect. Clothes are often labeled with the manufacturers name. If you see a shirt that says Old Navy, or shoes which say Nike or Jordans, you are seeing something that is worn because it is cool. And although most people don't think of the concept of being cool as being prideful, nevertheless it is pride. To be cool is to dress, act, or speak in such a way as to draw attention to yourself. The wearing of certain types of clothes or name brand clothes is a way of telling people that you are one of the "in crowd." It is peer pressure which moves us to dress the way other people dress in order to be accepted by them. Otherwise, when they look down their noses at us we feel rejected.

Pride is that self seeking attitude to puff yourself up to a greater image than the way God made you. If you like to drive a flashy or expensive car and enjoy the thought of other people watching you and approving of what you are and of what you drive, then you are being prideful. Pride is what Satan felt when he rebelled against God. And it is Satan's purpose to

get every single person on earth to concentrate on their own selves so that they soon lose any interest in concentrating on the things of God. But the Bible tells us that we are to set our minds on things above, not on things in this world, for the world will soon pass away, and then what will you have to show for yourself? You can't take money with you, and you can't take your Jordanairs with you. You can't take your Old Navy clothes with you, and your jewelry will just be consumed in the fire. However, the people of earth have been deceived into thinking that the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of this life are concepts that are more important than the righteousness of God.

But these things are not important. What is important is the love of God and the things of heaven that are promised to those who really do love God. The lust of the flesh, the lust of the eye, and the pride of this life will all be consumed by the fire of God. So why do people refuse to let these things go? Why do people continue to glorify the things of earth, and yet hardly give any glory to God? The answer to that is plain and simple. It's because of the beast nature of man. It is this sin nature, which first rose up in Satan, and then rose up in the people of earth which is responsible for destroying the knowledge of God. And it is the television programs and movies which is Satan's biggest and most dangerous tool of all time. This is why Revelation 13 refers to the second beast causing the people of Earth to make the image of the beast. This image of evil is displayed daily before their eyes and it brainwashes them. And because the image can also speak, the ears of people hear the wickedness every day, and they are brought quickly and surely to a stupefied state of mind with which they can no longer understand the deep hidden things of God. They continue to think they are safe, and will not be harmed in any way, but they are deceived because they did not love the truth of God, but rather loved to be tantalized and stimulated by the evilness of the flesh nature.

You see, God created the earth, but he did not mean that the earth was to be our final home. Satan has been loosed into the world and has been allowed to tempt mankind with things which stimulate desire for fleshly things. But God hindered Satan from working strongly for a long time. From the time of creation up until the last few hundred years, Satan's power was inhibited, not being allowed to pass a certain point. However, when God took away the hindrance, and Satan was allowed to go full steam ahead, then the second beast of Revelation 13 came into existence, and the people of earth took on the roll of searcher and seeker for all that which brings power to man without it being from God. When the fire was pulled down from heaven, then Satan's evil machine was galvanized into action, and the deception leapt forward with giant strides. In a sense, the giants have returned to earth. Earth, compared to the inhabitants of past centuries, are a race of giants. They are a race of mighty men. However, they are not empowered by God, but are empowered by the work of Satan. The empowerment of mankind is a power that is not found in God's word, but a power that is found within the science and technology of the cosmos. It is the order of the universe that mankind is being deceived into putting his trust. It is the ability of the race of giants.

Now this may be hard for you, but just think about the scripture in Genesis 6:4 about the giants who lived on Earth before the flood. It says that the sons of God took them daughters of men, and that they produced offspring who became mighty men of old, men of renown. Now,

people seem to put a lot of stock in muscles as a sign of strength. But the TV westerns of yesteryear taught us that the size of a man's muscles were no match for a revolver. We learned from those programs that an equalizer was a revolver which could take down anyone, even Goliath himself. We are now becoming a race of giants which have been birthed through the ministrations of demons, coupled with the flesh and blood of this world. The demon influence of Satan, coupled with the minds and bodies of men, have created a race of people who tower above every other race in the history of this world.

Truly, the prince of darkness is destroying God's people left and right, and unless the time is shortened, no flesh would be saved. Unless the time is shortened, even God's elect people would eventually be deceived. And if this deception was allowed to happen, Satan would set himself on God's throne, and his reign of destruction would be complete. But the time will be shortened, and the great and terrible Day of the Lord will soon bring about the destruction of the wicked, and also the destruction of everything that wickedness has built. I don't want to be part of the things of wickedness, and I hope you don't either. Therefore, I encourage every one of you who is listening to join me in an attempt to expel every lie possible from the confines of our homes. If your TV tells lies, then I encourage you to get rid of it. But then, you probably will reply that the TV is not all that bad, you will also claim that you are very careful what you watch, and therefore you are safe. Well, this may sound good, but then what you are saying is that you can't really see how the image of the beast could already be here, and how it already talks to you each and every day. And you probably can't see that we are fast approaching the very end of things, and that the revealing of Satan and his evil plan will soon be complete. The mystery of iniquity will finally be revealed completely at the last trump. But if you wait until then, you're going to be too late. Please don't wait. Please don't pretend that you can handle Satan's temptations. You can't overcome that which you invite to come home with you. If you take Satan's images and words home with you, you're inviting trouble into you and into your family. But if you want freedom, then kick that stuff out of your home.

And no, you probably aren't strong enough to do it cold turkey. But pray about it. Please. Before it is too late. We are approaching the end of time with lightning speed. And I do mean 'lightning'!

Part 6

Hello! Thanks for being with us. Welcome back to part six of Revelation's synopsis of end time events. Last week in part five we talked about many of the traits of the second beast and also those traits which describe the first beast. But there's a specific point I'd like to bring out concerning the image of the beast. And that is, the image of the beast is a picture, or a portrayal of the first beast, but the damage that the image of the beast does is no different than the damage that is done by the beast itself, or by the beast's parent image, Satan. Evil is manifested in the earth in many different ways, but the nature of evil is the same for Satan, the beast, or the false prophet. And this may seem like overkill of the subject, but you must understand that the evilness of Satan does not have to be manifested openly, it does not have

to be outwardly evident, in order to bring about the destruction of souls. Let me explain this in a little more detail.

Try to comprehend, if you would, that the warfare between good and evil is fought in the minds of men, and not on a physical battlefield. It is in the mind that Satan does his evil work. It is only through lies that Satan has power, and it is through lies that humans suffer the devil's destruction to their souls. When Satan tempts people, he puts thoughts into their minds. His power is based on being able to deceive. To be deceived is to enter a state of mind in which you believe something to be true that is really a lie. Satan is the father of liars, and is therefore the master of lies. It is his strength. It is through lies that Satan is attempting to dethrone God. He spreads his lies like a flood of water. It is this sea of lies which drowns men in destruction. But all he really does is to present thoughts to mankind which insinuate that God is not righteous. Satan, using various means, presents thoughts which are in opposition to God and to his ways. When God says that homosexuality is an abomination, Satan presents thoughts contrary to this. When God says that you should not kill, Satan presents thoughts that are contrary. No matter what the variety or type of sin is that God hates, Satan presents an alternate viewpoint in the hope of convincing the people of earth that God's viewpoint is not right.

However, the most important thing Satan is doing is just to present anything and everything that is contrary to the will of God. This is Satan's basic plan of action, and it started out this way in the Garden of Eden. God had given Adam and Eve instructions that the tree of the knowledge of good and evil was off limits. The fruit of that tree was not to be eaten, for if they ate the fruit of that tree, they would die. Of course, we're well aware of the story. But Satan came along and presented a different idea. It was an idea that was contrary to God's will. It was just a simple mind game. Satan presented an alternate concept to God's instructions, and he did it just by planting a thought in Eve's mind. He just spoke words which were contrary to the instructions of God, and Eve processed that information in her mind. And when she failed to reject Satan's opposing idea, she became deceived. She used her mind to sort out the information, but Satan's words were too deceptive. Eve's response was to give in to the mental suggestion of Satan and allow his lie to remain in her mind rather than to cast it out. Of course, the rest is history.

It is this concept of deception that we fight. As humans, we need the truth in order to survive the threat of death. But if the thoughts of our minds become overwhelmed with lies, and the truth of God becomes unclear, then we make decisions which are unhealthy for our souls. In short, we have become deceived by the suggestions of Satan that he has planted in our minds.

The Bible, in John 8:32, tells us that the truth will set us free. Also, in Romans 12:2, we are told that in order to reject conformity with this world, and to line up with God's will, we need to have our minds renewed. It is our minds where we receive suggestions of evil. It is our minds where Satan puts his evil suggestions, his evil thoughts, and paints his evil pictures of things which are contrary to the true word of God.

It is the mind that must be cleared of confusion, and it is the mind which must be free of Satan's deception. But all Satan has to do is to plant a thought of evilness in your mind, and then you have to deal with it. No, you can't just ignore it. There is not one bit of information that enters your mind that you can just ignore, at least not until you process the information and put it in its rightful place. When Satan suggests something that is contrary to the righteous nature of God, than you have to determine the truth of that suggestion, or the falseness of it. Of course, many things are easy to sort out. But Satan is more deceptive than anything else in existence, and he can trip you up easier than you might like to imagine. He is, according to the words of God himself, wiser than Daniel. Satan is good as presenting thoughts into your mind. Of course, when you recognize the evil, you can refuse to entertain those thoughts, but before you can refuse the evil, and eject Satan from your mind, you will have to become convinced that what he is presenting to you really is evilness. And you can only do this by making certain that God's truth is established firmly in you. If you don't know truth very well, than you're not going to be able to reject Satan very well either, because Satan's lies can only be dispelled by the truth of God.

Let's face it. Truth and lies are only processed in the minds of men. The actions of evil are not the real battle. The battle between good and evil is in the minds of men, for God has clearly made known to mankind that he is the author of righteousness. This means that God has clearly shown that he is right in all things. Satan, on the other hand, has attempted to overturn God's claims of being right in all things, and is busy working in the minds of men in order to convince mankind that God is not really necessary, or worth seeking. Satan does this by his lies, which he knows can very well destroy the truth of God's word if people do not reject the lies. If the lies of Satan were allowed to remain within the minds of men, then the truth of God would be eventually cast out. It is this rebellion against the truth that Satan is all about. And it is in the minds of people, including your mind, that Satan is trying his best to destroy God.

It is for this reason that you must guard your mind. What goes into your mind will affect the truth of God. No, this doesn't mean that the truth of God cannot stand the onslaught of Satan, but it does mean that if you allow the lies of Satan to continually enter into your mind, and you do nothing to eject those lies, than they will stay there and make mental confusion for you. You will become confused by the lies of Satan if you don't cast him out. And, you can only cast him out by casting out his lies. If the suggestions of evil things are allowed to remain, then the spirits of evil can stay in you and continue to work. The final end of any person who continually entertains the suggestions of the devil is a complete loss of understanding for the truth of God.

But then, this doesn't need to happen. You can prevent much of the destruction just by casting out any evil thought which is in opposition to the righteousness of God. You do this by guarding your eyes, and your ears. The eyes and the ears are the doorways to your mind. Of course Satan knows this fact very well. Your eyes and your ears take images and sounds and pass them into your brain. Once the images and sounds pass into your brain, you must process that information. If you don't try to sort out the information, you will become deceived. However, if you continue to entertain suggestions of evil in the form of images and sounds

which are contrary to the righteousness of God, you will end up losing the understanding of truth, and will begin to believe the lies.

And this is a concept of which most people seem to be ignorant. Most people, and I am including Christians in this equation, think that they can entertain evil images and sounds and that the images will just pass in through the eyes and out the back of the head, and that the sounds will just enter in one ear and go out the other. This, of course, is a stupid concept. It is only an accepted concept when a person is very much deceived.

And this is why the second beast of Revelation 13 causes the people of Earth to make an image of the first beast, and it is the reason that the image is made to speak. It is a concept that God's word tries to explain in order to warn people of Satan's plan of attack. The image of the beast, coupled with the blasphemous sounds of the beast, enters in to the minds of people and destroys the truth of God's word. These suggestions of evil are only suggestions, but nevertheless they bring in doubt concerning God's word. It is the doubt that destroys so effectively, for the truth of God is replaced by the lie when the lie is permitted to remain. Therefore, doubt works to dispel faith. When doubt is firmly established in a man, then the truth is cast out. And when the truth is cast out, then God is no longer in control of that man, but Satan then reigns supreme in that man's heart.

It is the lies of Satan which must be stopped from having continual access to our minds. If we allow images and sounds to continually enter our minds through our eyes and ears, we are putting our souls at risk. The second beast of Revelation causes the people of Earth to create an image of the beast which also speaks, and once this image of the beast is allowed access to the minds of men through men's eyes and ears, Satan is able to control the hearts of these men. In short, the image of the beast is an image of Satan himself, for the first beast of Revelation, is, in general, the animal nature of Satan which is in opposition to the righteous nature of God. The television, movies, and other forms of images and sounds, are now well established in the earth. Mankind is at this very time well down the path of deception, and the images and sounds that are projected on the screens of televisions, movies, computers and other forms, give images and sounds which give an accurate description of the beast concept. The programming on our televisions is evil. There's hardly any person, whether Christian or not, who will not admit that the images and sounds presented to us in this present age through these devices are evil. However, most non-Christians and many Christians don't seem to care that evil permeates their homes and brainwashes their families.

And the real deception to these people is not that the images and sounds are supposed to be good, but that the images and sounds won't hurt you because they're not the real thing. Even Christians seem to think that they can watch actors and actresses do and say things that would be totally evil if done off stage, but think that if done on stage that there is nothing wrong with it because it is just pretend.

And this is where Christianity must make a break from the system of world stupidity. The evil of Satan works in the mind whether it gets there by a real event or by a simulated portrayal. It

is by this means that the image of the beast is so successful. Christians would never think of robbing a bank or killing someone, or would never think of going to a strip joint. But yet they will set in their living rooms and watch it acted out by actors and actresses and will never even realize that Satan has just presented images and sounds to them through their eyes and ears. They will never realize that the evil nature of Satan has just been allowed to enter into their minds where it can set up residence and cause confusion to the truth of God.

Whether the image you see and the sounds you hear are real or make believe, they are still the same evilness of Satan, and they have still entered into your mind. All it takes to destroy truth is to saturate the minds of men with an abundance of evil natured thought, and soon the minds of men will be mush.

This filth of images and sounds of the beast is an abomination to God, and it's only result will be to cause a complete desolation to all living things. A wasteland is a desolate place. It is a place where life has no foothold. The filthiness of Satan's beast nature will destroy the souls of men, for it will destroy the truth of God's righteousness. No, the abomination is not the TV set or the movie projector and screen. The box and the silver screen are not the real invention that mankind created. What mankind really created by the suggestion of the second beast of Revelation 13 was a way for the filthiness of Satan's beast nature to be displayed to the eyes and ears of mankind. And this invention has become extremely successful in Satan's war plans. It is Satan's ultimate weapon, and it is guaranteed to destroy the truth of God in the minds of any person who continually entertains the sights and sounds of evilness. And, as it says in Revelation 13, it will accomplish that goal in any man, whether he is rich, poor, young or old. Think about it. No one in this world is exempt from the influence of the silver screen.

Do you see this at all? Abomination, means ultimate filth of evil. Desolation means to be void of life, to be empty, to have no provision of need. Make no mistake. The real abomination of desolation, the total filth which destroys life, is Satan. But the image of the beast is the method that Satan has used to place his abomination that makes desolate into the temple of God. It is through the TV, movies, and other forms of imagery and sounds that Satan destroys, and this method of presentation destroys because the audio and visual programming is an accurate depiction of Satan's beast nature. The beast nature of Satan is destroying the righteous nature of God through the creation of electronic imagery and sounds, and God's children are among those who are making this happen. They are also among those who are being destroyed by the very invention that mankind themselves created.

But please understand. The images and sounds of the beast nature are getting worse and worse, and to be sure, this filthiness will make you desolate. But the real warning message of Revelation 13 is that it will only destroy those people who love the beast nature. Those who truly love the righteous nature of God will not be destroyed because they will refuse to allow Satan access to their minds. But the deception is great. It is so great that the closer we get to the end of time, the closer we get to the possibility of God's people all being destroyed. But this is why God calls out to his people and says, "Come out of her my people, and be not a partaker of her plagues." This is referring to the scriptures concerning Great Babylon, the

spiritual city of the wicked who live in opposition to the righteousness of God. God's spiritual city is Jerusalem, and it is the people who love the righteous nature of God who live there.

The abomination of desolation is already here, and it has already been placed in the holy place, just as the Bible prophesied it to be. And Christians must realize that we are the temple of God. Paul tells us this in 1 Corinthians 3:16. Jesus said that he would build a temple which was not made with hands. The abomination that makes desolate is already sitting in the temple, for Christians everywhere have been deceived into taking the image of the beast home with them and setting the idol up in their living rooms. Therefore, Satan sits on his throne in you, the temple of God, and disperses his suggestions of filth directly to you and to your family. And the deception is yet so great that Christians everywhere are deceived into thinking that they will be raptured before any of this takes place. As usual, Christians are only able to see with physical eyes. They are looking so earnestly for a man to call himself God and to sit in a reconstructed physical temple in Jerusalem that they can't comprehend how Satan, the great deceiver, is deceiving them. The abomination of desolation has already been placed in the temple of God, for you are the temple, and you yourself have brought in this idol and set it up in your own sanctuaries. This means you have allowed Satan to come into your homes and to preach his evil doctrine. He can show you images and give you sounds that are anti-Christ, anti-God, and anti-everything that is Godly and right. He is trying to convince the whole world that the beast nature is more preferred than the righteous nature of God. He throws in just a little programming that is acceptable, but very little. In this current age, the programming of television and movies has become so filled with filthiness that there is hardly any redeeming value in any of it.

But Christians continue to watch the evilness because they think that everything is just pretend. They think that because the people are just acting, and because the situations are just staged, that it isn't really real. But although the situations are make believe, the spirit of the make believe is the same spirit that comes from the real live situations. But Christians think they can watch make believe and that it is different than taking part in the real thing. This is the great deception of Satan, and he is good at what he does. The abomination of desolation has been placed in the holy temple of God, for you are the temple, and you yourself have invited the idol in. Satan stands in your living room and daily gives you suggestive thoughts that are contrary to the righteousness of God. How long do you think you can hang on before his brainwashing techniques finally overwhelm your understanding of truth and your soul is destroyed? Apparently, you must think you are immune to deception. At least, it seems that's what Christians must think. Christians must think that they cannot be touched with Satan's evilness, yet the evilness has already been set up in their houses, and even in their churches, and they have been there for years and years and years. It is high time to wake up and cast the evilness out of your houses. It is time to cleanse the temple. And if you don't soon see the evil, and if you don't soon cleanse the evilness from your own temple, then when Jesus Christ comes in the clouds of heaven, he himself will cleanse his temple. But those who have refused to come out from among them and be separate will be cast out of his righteous city forever. Don't be deceived. The abomination of desolation is already sitting in you, and you desperately need God to open your eyes and ears, before it is too late.

Part 7

Hello! Thanks for being with us. Welcome back to part seven of Revelation's synopsis of end time events. Last week in part 6 we talked mostly about the concept of the mind of man being the battleground for the war between good and evil. Because of this battle for the mind of man, our thoughts should be established in righteousness, and not in the lies of Satan. Our minds are where the truth of God should reign supreme, and anything which exalts itself against the truth of God should be cast out. But the great deceiver has no intention to let you do this easily. Therefore, we must depend on the sword which proceeds out of the mouth of God, which is the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. This ultimate weapon of God's truth will defeat the lies of Satan, and will preserve your heart to the end of the world. However, the preservation of your soul depends on you as well as God, for it is you who has been given the power of choice. It is your choice whether or not to entertain the lies of Satan, and it is also your choice whether or not to believe the lies. But then, if you entertain those lies, sooner or later you will believe them. You can't always play with fire without sooner or later getting burned.

The first beast of Revelation 13 is intended by Satan to destroy your heart by introducing as much of Satan's evil nature as possible into your mind. Don't let him do it. In the end, when all things have come to completion, and God reigns supreme over the hearts and souls of men, there will be no room for the lies of Satan, or any room for those who entertained those lies. And it is only through entertaining those lies that Satan has any foothold in you. If you reject the lies at the beginning, when they first try to enter your mind, then you can have the victory over those lies as God intended. But the choice is yours. It is up to you to make a firm stand against evil. Then God will do the rest. The righteousness you actively seek will be forthcoming through the power of Jesus Christ in the blood that he shed for you, but you must seek righteousness, and you must resist the devil. If you don't resist the devil, he will not flee from you, and you will find yourself playing host to the demon influence of Satan's 1st Beast.

Now, I'm going to give you a spiritual concept concerning the 1st Beast, which is pretty difficult to comprehend. But in order to understand the beasts of the Bible, this concept must be understood. To put it as simply as possible, the 1st Beast of Revelation 13 is similar to Satan's spirit, in that it is the spirit of Satan which is attempting to manifest Satan in the earth. Now, stick with me for a few minutes and I'll try to explain. You may not understand this, but if you can see it, it will help you immensely with the rest of the Bible's prophecy.

Now, we know that man was made in the image of God, and that just as God is manifested in three parts, we are also made to have three parts to each one of us. Just as God is represented as three persons, or three separate parts which are yet one God, each of us are also one person, yet we are manifested in three persons or parts. Just as God is made up of God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit, we humans are also made up of our living soul, our outward fleshly person, and also we each have a spirit.

In scripture, Jesus was the outward manifestation of God. Although he was God himself, he revealed himself to mankind as a man. In this form, God was referred to as the Son of God. Of course we know that there is only one God, and that Jesus Christ is also God, and that the Holy Spirit is the Spirit of God. The three parts or three persons of God is Father, Son, and Spirit. But the most important thing to recognize here is that although God is only one God, the concepts of three persons helps us to understand more about God. It helps us to know him better when we can understand the three different aspects of him. And this is how humans also work. We also have our Father part, which is our control part of us, then we have our body, which is our outward showing part, and then we also have a spirit. Our spirit is that part of us that brings the hidden thoughts and beliefs of our soul out into the open and reveals them to others by the words and actions of the body.

I don't know how many times you may have heard me explain this concept, but it's important for you to understand it if you're going to understand prophecy to any great extent. The concept of God being Body, Soul, and Spirit, and mankind also being created with body, soul, and spirit, forms the very basis of the Bible, for it forms the very basis of God. God is God, whether he is referred to as Father, or as Son, or as the Holy Spirit. And we also are who we are, whether we are referred to as three parts or as one part. Let me give you an example. For you who have not heard this explanation, it may help somewhat.

Let's say that someone is talking to me, and they say, "Randy, I have heard about you. And in fact, I know you very well. I know you perfectly for I can look at you and therefore I know who you are and what you're about." Now, of course, to have someone just look at me and think he knows me completely is ludicrous. I might reply to that person and say, "Sir, you may be able to see me standing before you, but you don't really know me, for I'm not just what you see. In fact, who I really am is inside of me. Who I really am is hidden deep within me, in the very heart of me, and you can't see my heart, because you can't read my mind. If you could, then maybe you would know me pretty well, but just looking at the outside of me will only give you an indication of what is inside of me. You can only know me well by knowing my thoughts, and you haven't even come close yet."

Now, this is just an example. But think about it. If someone saw you just once, and then claimed that they knew you very well, you yourself would deny it. You would know that they couldn't really know you very well because your outward aspect is just part of you. In order for anyone to know you well, they would have to spend a lot of time with you. They would have to watch what you do and listen to what you say. Only after a great amount of time would someone know you very well. And even then they wouldn't know you completely, for there are many things in every person which are only known to that person. You and I have things in our minds that no other person ever knows about. There are things which we keep to ourselves and don't disclose to anyone, not even to our closest friends or loved ones.

Our minds are the part of us which makes up who we are. Our thoughts establish what our will is, what our desires are, and what our intents are. It is in our minds that our whole makeup is established. We hear things, see things, and experience things with our five physical

senses, and all this information is transferred into our minds. We process all the different stimuli that comes into our minds and then we sort out and separate some things from other things. The final result is that we discard any information that we determine is bad, and we retain all the information that we consider to be good. This sorting out process goes on continually in our minds, and the continuing process of sorting out incoming information establishes and maintains our minds. And the result is who and what we really are.

Now, because it is information that determines what we like and dislike, our bodies act accordingly to show outwardly what is in the deep hidden things of our heart. It should be pretty easy to see that your body doesn't act individually from your mind. It is your mind which controls the body, not the body your mind. When you think about going to the store, it is your body which takes you there. And when you buy something, it is your mind that has determined what your body actually picks up and places in the shopping cart for purchasing. Your body is only the machinery to accomplish the desire of your mind, and this is because your mind is the authority over your body. The body does not have authority over the mind, but the mind has authority over the body.

This is why we refer to God as the Father, and to Jesus as the Son. Although Jesus is God, the concept of Father and Son help us to understand how we work, and how God works. We are no different than God in this respect, for our minds are the authority, or father, part of us, and our bodies are the servant, or son, aspect. And just as Jesus was obedient to the Father, our bodies must also be obedient to the father aspect, the authority aspect, of our minds. It is the mind where all the information is processed, and it is the mind where all the decisions are made. It is the mind where likes and dislikes are established, and it is the body which carries out the mission of the mind.

We are body, soul, and spirit. The soul is the part that really lives, in that it is the thoughts of the heart. Even when our bodies change, our spirit and our souls will continue. Even when the body ceases to live, the thoughts remain active. We see this in Biblical explanations. Abraham is described as being in paradise and speaking across the great gulf to the rich man who was in hades. Jesus also said to the thief on the cross that when his death came, and his body died, he himself would be with Jesus in paradise. Jesus himself said that God is not a God of the dead, but a God of the living. No, not still living in the earthly realm, but still living in the spiritual realm.

Jesus, as the body of God, the outward showing of who God really is, was obedient to God's thoughts and desires, and responded to those thoughts of God, acting and speaking only the things of God. Through the life of Jesus Christ, God was revealed to mankind. God is a spirit, and without God being manifested in the flesh, no man would have been able to see God so clearly. And without our own bodies, no one could know us, for it is only the body which can speak and act in the physical realm of earth. The thoughts of the heart are revealed through the words and deeds of the body.

However, there is also the third aspect of our makeup, for we also have a spirit just as God has a Holy Spirit. The spirit of man is the liaison between the thoughts of man and his body. It is the same for God. The Holy Spirit is the liaison between God the Father and his Son. Even more than this, the Holy Spirit has become our spirit, so that we can have the Father's will revealed to us. Because we are the body of Christ, the will of the Father is revealed to us in order that we might speak the words of God and do his works.

It is the same for your spirit. 1 Corinthians 2:10 tells us that the Spirit of God searches the deep hidden things of God and reveals them to us. Just as the Spirit of God searches the mind of God in order to reveal his will, our spirit also searches our minds in order to find what is there and reveal it to others. Our spirit will search our hearts, find what is there, and will then move our bodies to respond in words and actions which are in accord with our will. Our will is accomplished by our body when our spirit searches our hearts and discovers our true will and then moves our body to display the proper response.

In this way we are made in the same way God is. But there is an import aspect to this concerning prophecy, and this is that Satan also attempts to work in this fashion. But Satan has no body. He is a spirit, and desires a body to carry out his desires. Satan's word is powerful in that his lies can deceive greatly, but his lies have no real force unless combined with something which will carry out his will. Unless he can possess a body, and control it completely, he can't reign in power. An interesting point can be seen in the Bible's description of the Man of Gadara who had the legion of devils. When Jesus cast out the demons, they asked Jesus if they could go into the herd of pigs which were close by. The reason for this is that without inhabiting a living body, the demons have nothing through which to act out the thoughts of their minds. Just imagine what you would be like if you only had a mind and a spirit, but no body. You could communicate with other forms of life which had a mind and spirit, but you would not be able to control anything.

God has the ability to speak a word and get a response from anything. God can speak to the storm and cause it to be quiet. God can speak to a mountain and have it cast into the sea. God can speak a word and create the world. This concept demonstrates the awesome power of God. But, Satan does not have this power. I'm sure he would like to, but he doesn't. It is only God who has the power to speak a word and get instant results from anything, whether it is a living thing, or, a shovel full of dirt. All things obey the word of God. But Satan does not have this power. And he doesn't even have a body which can act for him to move things around or bring things into existence. And this is why Satan wants us. He wants us to be his body. And, if you can comprehend this, the wicked people of earth make up the body of Satan. It is the wicked people of earth who respond to the thoughts and intents of Satan's heart.

But Satan has determined to exalt himself above the throne of God, and in this regard, Satan needed a power which could do that. He didn't have the power to speak and have things created instantly like God does, so he has chosen a different path in order to create his own kingdom. He can't speak words and cause inanimate objects or humans to move at his

command, and he can't create something out of nothing by calling it forth with his mouth. However, he can speak words to people, and cause them to respond for him. In short, it is the wicked people of earth who have become the body of Satan, just as the righteous people of earth have become the body of Christ. And as the righteous, who are the body of Christ on earth, give control to God, so do the wicked people of earth give control to Satan, and they do his will for him. In this way, Satan's word can bring about the creation of earthly things such as computers, automobiles, televisions, and appliances. And through these inventions, he stimulates mankind to exert even more energy toward the ultimate power of man's own ingenuity. If Satan's plan of action was allowed to continue unimpeded, the result would eventually bring about a complete dependence upon man's own power, and a total rejection of God. God would no longer be needed. What I am saying is that basically, God can speak to a ball of dirt and it will respond by becoming a planet. But Satan must speak to someone who has a body who will create mechanisms for him which can be used to create other mechanisms, which would, if given enough time, create a livable planet. And, if this scenario was allowed to continue, eventually anything and everything could be created by mankind, and they themselves would become rulers of themselves. However, this of course means that they would then be totally under the control of Satan himself, for man would have rejected the authority of God, and therefore would automatically have chosen Satan as their god.

The most important thing Satan wants to accomplish is the downfall of God as the Almighty God. But in order to do this he must cause mankind to become his servant instead. In this way, God would be set aside, and mankind would follow after the lies of Satan to accomplish the devil's will. And the basis for this concept can be seen in the Bible's description of the building of the Tower of Babel. This first attempt by Satan to exalt his throne was an attempt to get the people of earth to do the actual work of creating a system which could mount up against God. The actual building up of the tower was not what would accomplish Satan's goal. The actual goal Satan would accomplish would be to bring together a people of his own who would not be obedient to God, and at the same time would create the REAL tower of Babel which could actually, eventually, become the great power and might in opposition to the power of God's spoken word. The science and technology of the original Tower of Babel was a long way from the reality of great power, and a long way from the possibility of immortality. But God recognized the form of it, and destroyed the building of the great tower until such time as the hindrance to Satan should later be removed.

This hindrance to Satan, as referred to in 2nd Thessalonians 2:7, has now been removed. The plan of Satan, based on his lies, is going forward with unprecedented speed, and the great tower is once again being built. The wicked people of earth, those who respond willingly to the mental suggestions of Satan, are building this tower. These same people are the inhabitants of Great Babylon, just as the original inhabitants lived in the old physical city of Babylon. Satan is speaking his word. His lies are going out to the people of earth, and the wicked have become his body.

The 1st beast of Revelation 13 is the spirit of Satan which works in the hearts of wicked people much the same way as the Holy Spirit of God works in the hearts of God's righteous people.

In much the same way as the Holy Spirit moves the hearts of men to perform God's will, the evil spirit of Satan moves the hearts of men to perform his will. The 1st beast of Revelation 13 can be seen as the spirit of Satan which is manifested through the nations of earth as they continually strive against each other in their wicked drive for power. In this sense, what you see on earth, the forces of mankind's quest for power, is a result of that evil spirit of Satan, taking the thoughts and intents of Satan's heart and transferring his desires into the hearts of the wicked people of earth.

In the Old Testament, Satan's plan unfolded in a power structure which relied on the concept of the rule of kings. This concept has evolved in this New Testament era into a system of multiple rule by multiple kings. However, Satan has never given up on his initial plan, and the system of one king ruling over a multitude is still Satan's ultimate goal. Of course, he plans to be the ultimate ruling king himself, with the nations of earth forming one mind and giving him the complete reign that he initially desired when he first rebelled against God. And this is the picture we will look at next week when we take a closer look at Nebuchadnezzar's image of gold, as described in the book of Daniel.

And just a word here for you who may have a difficult time understanding Bible prophecy. Keep in mind that there is not a man on earth who understands all of prophecy. The best we can do is to pray for understanding, and then let God reveal to us what he is willing to reveal. In this sense, we must keep praying, and keep seeking understanding. And as the Bible says, the understanding comes by, "line upon line, precept upon precept. Here a little and there a little." Yes, it may not come quickly, but patience and persistence will bring the eventual reward.

Part 8

Hello! Thanks for being with us. Welcome back to part eight of Revelation's synopsis of end time events. Last week in part seven I spoke concerning the spirit of Satan which is manifesting itself in the world. And this week I'd like to continue the discussion of the topic, but carry it one step further. As I said last week in my closing statements, I'd like to talk this week about the golden image in the book of Daniel which King Nebuchadnezzar set up for the people to worship, and which Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego refused to bow down to. This golden image which King Nebuchadnezzar created, and, the image of the beast referred to in Revelation 13 which the people of earth created, are very closely related. The golden image of Nebuchadnezzar is the initial symbolism that the Bible uses to point to our current image of the beast. The image of the beast of Revelation 13 is Satan's present day form of the golden image, which has been formed by the people of earth in order that Satan might carry out the very same plan of evil which Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego faced in the days of King Nebuchadnezzar. As Nebuchadnezzar used the golden image to inspire worship of himself, so does Satan use the image of the beast to inspire worship of himself. The book of Daniel and the book of Revelation go together hand in hand. Daniel or Revelation can't be very well understood without each other. But, before I get ahead of myself, let's go back to the book of

Daniel, and take a look at the first glimpse the Bible gives us of Revelation's image of the beast.

In chapter two of the book of Daniel, we read where the king of Babylon, Nebuchadnezzar, dreamed a dream. Upon awakening he couldn't remember the dream, but was so affected by it that he desired the wise men of his kingdom to remember the dream for him and to interpret its meaning. It was Daniel who told the dream to Nebuchadnezzar and interpreted it. The dream was essentially this. Nebuchadnezzar dreamed a dream and saw a great image which had exceptional brightness. And what he saw was an image in the form of a man, which was formed with different metals. The head was gold, the breast and arms were silver, the belly and thighs were bronze, the legs were iron, and the feet were part iron and part clay. In addition, the ten toes were also made of iron and clay.

Daniel further explained that the head of gold represented the kingdom of Nebuchadnezzar. Nebuchadnezzar was the first world government, for his kingdom dominated all the people of earth. After this initial kingdom there would arise another kingdom which was also a world government, and would be governed by the two kings of the Medes and Persians. This kingdom would be inferior to the first kingdom of Babylon, and this inferiority is represented by the metal, silver. Silver is inferior to gold in the sense of its value. However, silver is a better metal than gold for purposes where strength is needed. What we are seeing immediately is that as the description of the image is explained in a downward pattern, there is a decrease in the centrality of rule over the earth, but yet an increase in the overall strength of this world government rule. But the next kingdom would be made even more inferior, because it would be split up into four parts, which is what happened when the kingdom of Greece was established. This kingdom is described as being of brass, or bronze, which is a copper alloy. Again, the inferiority of brass, or bronze, is in its value, but there is once again an increase in strength, as this metal is stronger than silver. Essentially, the increasing inferiority means that the kingdom is not ruled by a single person, but by more than one. Although the kingdom is inferior in that the rulership has become more diverse, yet it still has once again evolved into a stronger kingdom. The interpretation of the different aspects of this image continually points out the stages of inferiority, but also emphasizes the increase of the overall strength of kingdom rule on the earth.

The next kingdom was also more diverse, and was made of iron. Essentially this kingdom would be controlled by a republic which would rule in much the same way as a democracy, yet with a ruler which had extreme power. Rome is the physical equivalent of this fourth kingdom, and it had an emperor, but it also had a ruling senate to control government. And this kingdom eventually gave rise a split of eastern and western rule which ceased to act together. This is what is represented by the two feet of the image which were formed with clay and iron. Both the western and eastern forms of the Roman empire were partly strong and partly broken, and although the two divided empires ruled the whole world, they did it separately within their own sub-kingdoms and not in one accord or one agreement with each other. The eventual graduation to the ten toes of the image represents that this iron kingdom continues to this day. However, it only continues in the sense of there being several sub-kingdoms that act

independently, but yet form a ruling authority over all the earth. The kingdom continued to diversify into rule by the many, but it also continued to gain more and more strength over the whole world. From this perspective we can see a kingdom of earth which has evolved from one world wide government into another world wide government, but in an increasingly diversified manner. The current world government is rule by the many, and not a world kingdom which is brought under the rule of a single king. And this, the restoring of the world wide government under one rule is what Satan has to do in order to bring about his plan to overthrow the kingdom of heaven.

And yes, I know this probably sounds confusing, but this is just an overview of this initial plan of action which Satan has been putting into force for thousands of years, and not a complete explanation. But this ultimate plan of action for Satan is described later in the book of Daniel where the Bible describes the record of how Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego were delivered from the fiery furnace when they would not bow down and worship the golden image.

First of all, let's read the initial account of Daniel 3:1-6. It says, "Nebuchadnezzar the king made an image of gold, whose height was sixty cubits, and the breadth of it six cubits: he set it up in the plain of Dura, in the province of Babylon. 2 Then Nebuchadnezzar the king sent to gather together the princes, the governors, and the captains, the judges, the treasurers, the counselors, the sheriffs, and all the rulers of the provinces, to come to the dedication of the image which Nebuchadnezzar the king had set up. 3 Then the princes, the governors, and captains, the judges, the treasurers, the counselors, the sheriffs, and all the rulers of the provinces, were gathered together unto the dedication of the image that Nebuchadnezzar the king had set up; and they stood before the image that Nebuchadnezzar had set up. 4 Then a herald cried aloud, To you it is commanded, O people, nations, and languages, 5 That at what time you hear the sound of the cornet, flute, harp, sackbut, psaltery, dulcimer, and all kinds of music, you fall down and worship the golden image that Nebuchadnezzar the king has set up: 6 And whoever falls not down and worships shall the same hour be cast into the midst of a burning fiery furnace."

Well, I'm sure most of you are familiar with this Bible story, and many of you probably learned it at a young age in church. However, the full extent of this historical record is not realized until you connect the physical account of the golden image with the spiritual meaning it symbolizes. And in order to do this you must understand the connection between Nebuchadnezzar's golden image and the original image in the dream of Nebuchadnezzar. But there's one more part to this that also must be added, and that's the concept of the image of the beast which is referred to in Revelation 13. The image of the beast in Revelation 13, and the dream of the image by Nebuchadnezzar in Daniel chapter 2, is also connected with the golden image of Daniel, chapter 3. These three images are all part of the overall prophetic picture. Let me try to show you the connection. I'll try to make it as simple as possible.

The real key to connecting these three images is the fact that Satan is attempting to form a one world government in which he is the supreme ruler. The Tower of Babel was his initial

attempt, but of course, as I have explained previously, God placed a hindrance before Satan by bringing confusion of language to the people who were building the tower. This destroyed the unity. It prevented the people from being of one mind. And this loss of unity prevented Satan from accomplishing his goal. However, the hindrance slowed him down, but it did not stop him from continuing his plan of overthrowing the kingdom of heaven. Satan's plan of action has been in force since the beginning, only the hindrance God placed in his way caused Satan's plan to progress at a much slower pace than it would have if the people had been able to continue building the original tower. And this unity is significant, and is actually the central aspect of the three images. The first image was the dream of Nebuchadnezzar which symbolically described each stage of what Satan was building. The first stage of Satan's plan was the physical kingdom of Babylon which is described as being a head of gold. And when this gold kingdom was replaced by the kingdom of silver, notice that the deterioration was only in that the rulership was divided. The actual rule was still a one world government, only it had more than one king at the top. But the one world government of silver was stronger than the kingdom of gold. The third kingdom was even more inferior, but again, the government of the world was stronger. This continued downward, with each successive change bringing yet another world rulership, even more divided but yet stronger than the one before. It was only when the kingdoms of world government became widely dispersed that the clay was introduced, and then some of the kingdoms were strong and some were weak. But still overall rulership was a strong world government with the quality of iron. It is at this time, in the current end of nations, that Satan is attempting to consolidate all earthly powers of this diverse world government into one government where he himself is the head. The golden image that Nebuchadnezzar set up, which Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego refused to worship, was the symbolic representation of what Satan's real intentions are. The kingdom has, and always has continued to be, a secular kingdom, ruled without the direction of God. There is no coming one world government without God, for our present day government of the world is already ruled by mankind, and the powers that be do not give credit to God. Yes, in lip service they do, but not in actual obedience to God himself. Our world governments are secular in nature. Even in the times of the church rule, the rule was not by the Holy Spirit, but by the cunning and craftiness of self greed for money and power.

To understand the full picture, you must realize that Nebuchadnezzar was the physical king of Babylon, but Satan is the spiritual equivalent. What God is showing his people by the book of Daniel is a beneath the surface look at Satan's true desire. What Satan wants to do is to unite the nations of the earth, and bring them all back together under his own rule. In essence, Satan's plan is to allow the rulership of the world government to become fragmented, but at the same time to become much more powerful in the sense of controlling the mind set of the world's population. It is a godless society which rules earth. When the time of the end comes, Satan's plan is to bring unity once again between all people and to set himself on the throne of world power. The golden image is a symbolic expression of Satan's plan to incorporate all the power of the different nations which rule earth and bring them back into the same state as the original Babylon, as described by the head of gold. It is the unity of one mind that would allow him to rule all nations. And the last part of this equation is the image of the beast in Revelation 13. Through this last image, Satan's plan would be accomplished if God allowed the time to

continue to the end. However, we know that God has shortened the time so that the elect will not be deceived. But if allowed to continue, Satan would, by the image of the beast, reintroduce the unity of one mind which was first established at the Tower of Babel, and this unity would actually bring about one mind of the people with Satan's will controlling it.

The image of the beast is an accurate picture of who and what Satan is. The pictures and sounds of television screens and movies accurately depict the nature of Satan. This is the nature of the beast, and this form of imagery and sounds brainwashes the people of earth and teaches them Satan's doctrine. The spirit of Satan is manifested in the wicked actions of people, and the imagery and sounds of TVs and movies continues to bombard the world with Satan's concepts and perspectives. And this spirit of the beast nature has now penetrated the church, and in the last few years the leadership of the Christian church has been transforming. It is being transformed into a mechanism which is inspired by the desire for wealth and power instead of being inspired by the Holy Spirit. It is a denominational split that is more than just east and west. It is many forces which follow the doctrines and precepts of man rather than being led of the Holy Spirit of God. The spirit of Satan has been manifesting in the earth, and the beast nature of Satan is rapidly devouring people, including the people in the churches. Satan's intent is to mold the nations of earth into one golden image, and the gold of this image symbolically implies that there will no longer be a leadership of the world government which is divided among kings. The world government that Satan envisions is completely unified under his leadership. And his goal, if God allowed it to follow its prescribed course, is to destroy every single person who does not align with his plan. The story of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego is a symbolic representation which demonstrates Satan's intent to destroy every resistance to his rule. However, as we can see in Daniel's account, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego were accompanied by a fourth person in that fiery furnace, and that person is Jesus Christ. Satan's attempted destruction of God's people will not take place, for Jesus Christ will deliver us from that ultimate destruction. The fires of hell cannot prevail against those who love God and who call Jesus Christ their Lord and Savior.

Now, let's stop here and recap what has been said. Maybe if I summarize this account it might be more clear, for this is important to us to understand what we're facing in these last days. First, there was rebellion in Earth after the flood when the people of Earth were moved by Satan to create a city and a tower which would exalt the people and make a name for them. The attempt was primitive in its original form, yet God knew its potential, for the people were united in mind and purpose, and that purpose was not to exalt God but to exalt their own selves and to make themselves a name in the earth. Satan was the power behind this, and his spirit was being manifested, outwardly shown, by this Tower of Babylon. But God placed a hindrance before Satan in order to contain him until such time as the plan of God would bring righteousness to the earth. Because God caused this disunity in the mind of man, the Tower was abandoned.

Satan's next step was to establish the rule of kingdoms on earth, and that this rule would be by the might and power of man instead of by the Spirit of God. The initial kingdom of Babylon was represented as being of pure gold because of the purity of the leadership. It was united

under one king. The next stage of Satan's plan was a stronger kingdom base, but with a divided rulership. And of course, the next kingdom, and the next, etc., all followed this course of being a world government which became more and more divided as to ruling factions, but with the overall strength of the might and power of mankind becoming greater and greater. Each time the kingdom was divided, the overall strength of this world kingdom became stronger, and the strength was in the might and power of man, and not in the righteousness of God.

The image of gold that Nebuchadnezzar set up was representative of Satan's intent to eventually bring this Godless world government back within the original gold kingdom of Babylon, but this time the kingdom would be Great Babylon, and all those who loved the might and power of the physical realm would be the body that Satan needed. Great Babylon would be Satan's queen. And the queen would be all those who love the lies of Satan, and who loved the things of earth.

There are three images which represent Satan. The first image is from the dream of Nebuchadnezzar, which was formed with different metals and represented the stages of growth of the world's might and power. The second image was the image of gold, which represented Satan's ultimate goal of unifying the world government once again and bringing it under his own rule. The third image is the image of the beast, which is described in Revelation 13. This third image is the final push of Satan to bring back that single minded unity of purpose which was originally lost at the Tower of Babel when the head of the beast suffered the wound to its head. The image of the beast continually brainwashes the world with the concepts of evil, and brings doubt to the minds of men concerning the true word of God. Slowly but surely Satan is replacing God's word with thoughts and concepts of his own. His lies are distributed forcefully by the image of the beast, and are dissuading all men from following after God and causing them to reject Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior. The image of the beast which speaks is every form of picture and sound which describes evil. It is a complete system of mental brainwashing which destroys the truth of God and exalts the lies of Satan.

What Christians must soon come to realize is that this plan of Satan's is most definitely in place and we are rapidly coming to the very end of times at breakneck speed. Yet, most people are unaware of what is taking place. Yes, Christians are somewhat concerned with the mark of the beast and the anti-Christ nature, but because of the great deception, they are mostly in the dark. In addition, there are those who work within the Christian community itself which have taught doctrines which help to keep Christians in the dark. One of these doctrines is the lie that there is a pre-tribulation rapture. This makes Christians think they will miss the great trial of their faith and will escape the time of Satan's great deception. But because they think they are not going to have their faith tested, they continue to live in luxury, and live licentiously. Christians everywhere are beginning to incorporate the ways of the world, and even our churches are becoming operational mostly by programs of how to raise money and add people, without ever turning to the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

But it is the Holy Spirit that will guide us into all truth, and it is a love for the truth of God that will deliver us from the deception of Satan's lies. It is time for Christians to wake up. We must pray that God intervenes, shortening the time, for soon there would be no life left on earth, only the walking dead who serve the prince and power of the air. It is Satan who is the prince of this world, the prince of flesh and blood. But it is God who is the ruler of all those who are born again in spirit. You must be born again, or else you will die in Great Babylon, for Satan will be your king. God will destroy Great Babylon, and therefore, Christians must heed the call of Revelation 18:4, which says, "Come out of her, my people, so that you will not be partakers of her sins, and that you will not receive of her plagues."

Part 9

Hello! Thanks for being with us. Welcome back to part nine of Revelation's synopsis of end time events. Last week in part eight I spoke concerning the three images which the Bible uses to represent Satan's overall plan of attack. The first image was the image in the form of a man which King Nebuchadnezzar dreamed of. The second image was the image of gold which King Nebuchadnezzar made, and to which he tried to make Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego bow down. The third image I included last week was the image of the beast referred to in Revelation 13. And if you listened to last week's program you may remember that I referred to the golden image of Nebuchadnezzar as the forerunner of our current image of the beast, or in other words, the symbolic representation of it. The third image, the image of the beast, is Satan's end-time weapon with which he actually overcomes all kinds of people on Earth, including many of those who are Christians.

And yes, I can imagine your natural reaction to me saying that Satan will overcome the saints, but that's exactly what the Bible says. In Revelation 13:7 it says, "And it was given unto him to make war with the saints, and to overcome them, and power was given him over all kindreds, and tongues, and nations." You see? The Bible actually says that the 1st beast of Revelation 13 is given the power to overcome the saints. This means that the saints of God are at risk of being deceived. However, deception only comes upon a person successfully and causes the destruction of their soul when they do not truly love God in the first place. 2nd Thessalonians 2:10-12 tells us that the deception comes to those who did not have a love for the truth of God, but who had pleasure in the unrighteousness of this world. And for this reason, God will send them strong delusion to cause them to believe Satan's lies.

So, there are two specific points to recognize in Revelation 13 about the 1st beast. The deception of the first beast is great enough to deceive even Christians, for he is given great power and ruling authority by the Dragon. And we know from many verses, including Revelation 12:9 and Revelation 20:2, that the Dragon is also the devil and Satan, as well as the serpent.

But the second point we should recognize is that everyone on earth is deceived to some extent. If there was a single person on earth who is not deceived, that person would be perfect. And we know that only Jesus Christ was a perfect person on earth. The deception of Satan is

tremendous, and the 1st beast of Revelation is the spirit of Satan which inhabits the minds of the wicked and spreads his influence around the globe. The 1st beast works in the hearts and minds of Earth's people and deceives them into believing the lies of Satan. When the lies of Satan are coupled with the temptations of the flesh, one result can be the destruction of the soul. Another result, and a lesser evil, can be the destruction of purity for a Christian. When a Christian begins to believe the lies of Satan, it is the beginning of deception, and the deception can lead to a person sinning by not realizing the sin. This is referred to in the Old Testament as a sin of error, or a sin which was not performed on purpose. It is a sin which is committed by ignorance.

Sins of ignorance are overlooked by God to some degree, depending on the heart of the person. But the antidote for being led into sin is in repenting of that sin by turning away from it. When the sin is in error because of Satan's deception, we might be able to claim ignorance, but when God looks on our heart, he will be able to determine if the sin was out of true ignorance, or, if the sin was actually the result of our not having a true heart for the things of God in the first place.

And here is a concept I would like you to consider very diligently. If your heart is lukewarm when it comes to the things of God, but you get pretty fervent about the things of this world which stimulate your flesh, then your deception does not come from ignorance, but from a lack of love for God. Make no mistake. The desire to stimulate your eyes with the glitter of gold and silver, the flaunting of your body through clothes which are chosen by you to draw attention to your looks, the fancy cars which give you a false sense of pride and power, your great love for entertainment of the mind, these are all temptations of the flesh that Satan brings to the people of Earth. And these temptations draw you further and further away from Jesus Christ, and closer and closer to Satan's ultimate aim.

And please, consider this carefully. Satan's aim is to convince mankind that God's way is not the right way. Satan's purpose is to convince us to turn away from God and set our sights on the developments which are accomplished in this world by man's might and power. It is the same strategy now as it was in the beginning. Satan's plan started with the Tower of Babylon, and his plan continues with the current building of that same empire today. Today it is not called Babylon, but now it is called, Great Babylon. And the king of Babylon is not the Nebuchadnezzar of Daniel's time, but Satan himself. The Great Whore of Babylon is the consort of Satan, and the city itself is the habitation of the people of Earth who have allowed Satan to become their king by following his ways instead of God's ways. Just as Christians are the body of Christ, and just as Christians are the inhabitants of spiritual Jerusalem, the wicked people of earth are referred to as the inhabitants of Great Babylon, and this means that the wicked are Satan's woman, Satan's queen. Great Babylon is the body of Satan on the earth, just as spiritual Jerusalem is the body of Christ on the earth.

And in addition, it is important to know exactly how Satan accomplishes the task of changing the hearts of men from hearts which serve God to hearts which serve Satan. The transformation takes place in the minds of men. It is the mind of man which believes or

disbelieves. If the mind of man believes all the word of God, then that man belongs to God, and has made him Lord. But if the mind of man believes all the word of Satan, then that man belongs to Satan, and has made him Lord. Whoever you believe becomes your God. You can't get to heaven because you live a near perfect life. No matter how good you try to be, salvation will not come as a result of your goodness. Salvation only comes by believing the word of God. As Abraham believed God, and it was accounted to him as righteousness, so are we also saved by believing. But Satan has no intention of letting people believe that God is right in all his ways. He wants to convince mankind that God is not right in all his ways. And in addition, Satan wants to convince mankind that he himself is the right way to think and act.

This is why the current image of the beast was formed by the people of earth. Satan has brought this about in order to make the final assault on the true and right ways of God. He is making a very great end-time effort to change the mind of man over from the concepts of the right ways of God to the lying concepts of Satan. The image of the beast is his greatest tool for this purpose. The television and movies, and other forms of animation which also provide speech, is Satan's image. It accurately describes Satan's nature of evilness. Other forms of Satan's doctrine are also in great evidence, such as magazines, books, and newspapers. But, the images we see every day, which also include the technological invention of synthetic speech, are the greatest tools of Satan for all time.

In order for Satan to set aside the right ways of God, he must change the mind of man into thinking other ways which are contrary to God. The TV and movies provide programs of all kinds which continually present aspects which are contrary to the glory of God. Little by little the mind set of Earth's people are changed. Little by little the way of righteousness is eroded. Little by little people begin to lose sight of God, and lose the understanding of his word. Little by little Satan's ways are manifested more and more in the world, and at this present time all the earth is moving toward a common mind set which rejects the values of God and accepts the values of this present day evil satanic system.

This very diabolic plan of Satan is unfolding right before our eyes. However, few people, including Christians, can see it at this time. The mind of the world is being changed by the brainwashing of moving and speaking images which portray wicked concepts instead of displaying the glory of God and his word. This is a threat to the ultimate destruction of our souls, and an ultimate destruction to Earth itself. Those who are deceived by this image of the beast are being pulled further and further into the city of Great Babylon. But once again I want to remind you that God is calling his people out of Babylon. Revelation 18:4 says, "And I heard another voice from heaven, saying, Come out of her, my people, so that you will not be partakers of her sins, and that you will not receive of her plagues." Notice that this is not a call for the wicked to repent, but a call to God's people. If you consider yourself to be one of God's children, then you must also ask yourself why God would be calling to his own children to come out of Great Babylon? If he's calling to his children, and if you're one of those children, you must ask yourself the question, "Am I one of those who is in Great Babylon and don't know it?"

The answer to whether you are in Great Babylon, the city and whore of Satan, or in the city of Jerusalem, the city and bride of Christ, is in your thoughts and beliefs which you hold deep within your heart. It may very well be that you are deceived much more than you think you are. But you can find out for sure if you sincerely want to know and are willing to take the time and make the effort. All you have to do is seek God with all your heart, all your mind, and all your strength. You just have to go to God with everything you have and begin to set him in your heart as not only Savior, but as Lord. Read the Bible. Study the Word of God. Pray with everything that is within you, and compare the word of God with what kind of lifestyle you are living.

But you can be deceived with the rest of the world by subjecting yourself to a continual dropping of Satan's lies. If you're continually setting yourself before Satan's image, and continually allowing the image to speak to you and to your family, and if you think nothing of it, then you most likely are a resident of Great Babylon and you need to do something about it before it is too late.

The 2nd beast of Revelation 13 is the power of Satan which is unleashed in the world. It is this 2nd beast which comes on the scene when the hindrance to Satan is removed. As I said before, God placed the hindrance on Satan at the Tower of Babel to take away the unity of mind of the people who were working to exalt themselves in power. 2nd Thessalonians 2:7-8 refers to the time of this hindrance being removed as a time which will finally reveal Satan in all his evil plan. The hindrance was removed, and his evil plan is going forth without delay. Satan is being brought out into the open, but most people still cannot see him. They have scales on their eyes.

If you have heard previous messages, you may well have heard me speak concerning the lies of Satan being symbolized by the seas of earth. The waters of Satan's lies will drown men in destruction. Jeremiah 5:20-22 refers to the waters of the seas being contained by the boundary of the shores. Let me read these three verses. It says, "Declare this in the house of Jacob, and publish it in Judah, saying, 21 Hear now this, O foolish people, and without understanding; which have eyes, and do not see; which have ears, and hear not: 22 Do you not fear me? Says the LORD: will you not tremble at my presence, who has placed the sand for the boundary of the sea by a perpetual decree, that it cannot pass it: and though the waves of it toss themselves, yet they cannot prevail; though they roar, yet they cannot pass over it?"

Satan has been held within bounds for many centuries, but now the boundaries have been removed to his lies. The hindrance has been removed. The waters of Satan's sea of destruction was not previously allowed to pass the borders of the sea shore, but now they have been allowed to pass from the sea onto the solid ground of the earth. They have crept past the sands which border the sea, and have caused the ground to become miry clay. The waters of Satan's lies are creeping further and further inland, and Satan's intent is to bring about a total overwhelming of his own doctrine on the earth so that eventually there will be no solid ground for anyone to stand on, not even the elect children of God. If the time were not shortened, all solid ground would be taken over by the sea of lies, and all men would be drowned in Satan's

sea of destruction. The image of the beast is the instrument which Satan is using to accomplish that final goal. And even Christians are ignorant of his devices. Christians sit in front of the image that speaks and watch forms and listen to words which present an alternate view of reality. The true reality is that God is pure and righteous and that he and his ways should be glorified. But the image presents an alternate view of reality which suggests that the pleasures of earth are more important than heavenly things, and that Earth's people can define their own system of right and wrong.

Satan's image is destroying God's people by creating a false picture of righteousness. At the same time, because the hindrance to Satan has been removed, the science and technology of earth has increased totally out of proportion, and the inventions of man now convince mankind that whether or not God's word is followed explicitly may not be such a big thing after all. Satan is convincing mankind that they no longer need to trust in God, but can now begin to trust in their own power to create life, and their own power to sustain life.

Now, notice that the 2nd beast of Revelation is that beast which rises up out of the earth. The 1st beast rose up out of the sea. The meanings of rising up out of the sea and rising up out of the earth describe the concept of the sea passing its normal boundaries. The 2nd beast refers to the time of Earth when the boundaries to Satan's lies are removed. The 1st beast has been able to work in the earth, but only within the hindrance that God placed on Satan at the Tower of Babel. The 2nd beast is that beast nature of Satan which has had the reins taken off and the bridle removed. The lies of Satan crossed the boundaries God had previously set, and the 2nd beast came into view, and is now manifesting the beast nature of Satan in a way which is unprecedented. This second beast began to bring about the miraculous. No, not the miraculous according to the word of God, but the miraculous within the boundaries of human perspective. Notice in Revelation 13 that the miracles which the 2nd beast is able to do are only done by the power of the 1st beast. And the 1st beast has its manifestation in the power of the air of this world. Satan is the prince of the power of the air. This means that Satan's power is through the physical manipulations of science and technology. Satan cannot work in the framework of God's word, but has chosen to overcome the power of God's word with the forces of this world. He relies not on God's word, but the God of forces. It is physical might and power which Satan relies on. And it is not just the might and power of armies, but also the might and power of the human mind to manipulate the physical resources of the universe.

The people of earth have become susceptible to the 2nd beast, and this 2nd beast has brought about the discovery of electricity. Electricity is the fire of the heavens, and in this natural world, in this physical realm, the fire of the heavens has been pulled down to earth in order to supply mankind with a power to exalt themselves up to heaven. Just as the Tower of Babel was being built, the Tower of Great Babel is now being built, and Satan is quickly bringing together his beast structure of power. The minds of man are being quickly molded into a unified single purpose once again where man has one unified mind and gives himself over to Satan in order to accomplish the goal of an earthly kingdom which no longer needs to look to God for help. It is Satan's intent to form the present day world government back into the

purity which was originally represented as gold, which means that he himself will sit on the throne of earth as the one and only ruler.

Now, think about these things. Think about how we humans seem to be so ignorant, and we don't seem to be able to comprehend the unprecedented scientific and technological explosion. The earth is hurtling toward doomsday at unprecedented speed, and Satan is the one steering us. He is steering us by giving us directions on a daily basis. And, most of his directives are subtly presented by his image of the beast. The people of earth are being taken over, and they are going to their deaths blindfolded.

It is time to take off the blinders. It is time to have the scales removed from the eyes of God's people. No, the wicked will not see this until it is too late. The wicked will remain in Great Babylon and will suffer the destruction of the wrath of God. But Christians need to heed the call of God and come out of her. "Come out of her my children, and be not partaker of her sins. For her sins have reached unto heaven."

Folks, the end is near. It is time to repent. It is time to wash our robes, and to make ourselves presentable for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. There isn't much time. Christians need to come out from among the wicked and become a separate people of God. The hearts of Christians everywhere need to be revived. It is almost time for the final end. Will you heed the call to come out of Great Babylon, or will you continue to bow before the image in your houses?

Part 10

Hello! Thanks for being with us. Welcome back to part ten of Revelation's synopsis of end time events. This week I will be focusing on the part of John's synopsis of events in chapter 13, concerning the 2nd beast and what he does. As I've explained in past messages, the 2nd beast is the representation of Satan's power on earth becoming unhindered, as referred to in 2nd Thessalonians, chapter 2. If you would like, please feel free to request any of the messages we have given. And this current series concerning the synopsis of Revelation can be had in whole or in part just for the asking. The series or part of the series is free, and there is no charge for postage or handling or anything. It's free. Listen at the end of the broadcast and Kim will give you the addresses.

So, if you want to follow along today with me, turn to the book of Revelation, chapter 13, and I'll begin reading in verse 11, and will read to the end of the chapter. Starting with Revelation 13:11 it says, "And I saw another beast coming up out of the earth; and he had two horns like a lamb, and he spoke like a dragon. 12 And he exercised all the power of the first beast before him, and caused the earth and those who dwell in it to worship the first beast, whose deadly wound was healed. 13 And he does great wonders, so that he makes fire come down from heaven on the earth in the sight of men, 14 And deceives those who dwell on the earth by

means of those miracles which he had power to do in the sight of the beast; saying to those who dwell on the earth, that they should make an image to the beast, which had the wound by a sword, and yet lived. 15 And he had power to give life 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. 16 And he causes all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and bond, to receive a mark in their right hand, or in their foreheads: 17 That no man might buy or sell, except he that had the mark, or the name of the beast, or the number of his name. 18 Here is wisdom. Let him that has understanding count the number of the beast: for it is the number of a man, and the number is Six hundred and sixty six.”

What I just read was a total of eight verses. These are power packed verses which have a great deal of information. However, because John the Revelator was only presenting a synopsis of all this, and because the information is represented with a great deal of symbolism, the understanding of it only comes when it is revealed by God's Holy Spirit. It is the Holy Spirit which causes the scales to be removed from the eyes. It is the Holy Spirit which takes away the deception which keeps most people in the dark.

There are two main areas in which the 2nd beast of Revelation works. The first is the miraculous wonders he is able to perform. However, this power is not his own power, but through the power of the 1st beast. That's the line of succession. It starts with Satan, who is the Dragon, and he gives the power to the 1st beast, and then the 1st beast gives power to the 2nd beast. In verse 14 it says that the 2nd beast deceives the people of earth by these miraculous wonders. And the first major miracle he does is to bring the fire of the heavens down onto the earth. This is the modern day miracle of electricity which is the power base of all science and technology in the world today. I discussed this quite extensively in Message #95. If you didn't hear that message you can request it from us, as well as this whole series.

But the 2nd beast doesn't stop there. In verse 14 and 15 the Bible points out that this 2nd beast encourages the people of earth to create an image to the 1st beast. It is this image of the beast that is so diabolical. And, once again, as I've described very extensively in other messages, this image of the beast is the graphic portrayal of the beast nature of Satan which is both portrayed visually and audibly by the television, movie, and computer screens of this current time. If you would like more information on this you can request Message #96. In addition, we have other past messages on this subject, and you may request those also. And, once again, I want to stress that these are free. There is no charge. And no, we don't mind sending them out to anyone who requests them. You can request all of them if you like, and that would please us greatly.

Anyway, this brings us up to a very important subject. In Revelation 13:16-17, the final work of the 2nd beast is explained as causing every type of person on the earth to receive a mark, number, or name of the beast in the forehead or in the right hand. And it is this mark of the beast which has caused such curiosity for Christians down through the ages. However, we are no longer in the historical period of the earth, but of course we are in our own current time. And our current day events are the end time events, and the mark of the beast is a very

important concept for Christians to understand. It is this subject that I would like to concentrate on for the rest of our time today. The mark of the beast is here. However, it was here at the beginning of time on earth also. This, of course, would rule out the bar code and the computer chip, which are nothing more than mankind's attempt to understand the mark of the beast in a physical sense, rather than realizing the mark of the beast is a spiritual concept. Let me try to explain. This is important, but it certainly is not an easy thing to comprehend. The scales on the eyes of God's people have been there for a long time.

Anyway, in order to understand the concept of the mark of the beast, there has to be some background given. The first thing that must be understood is the significance of the number six. We know that the mark of the beast is described as being 666. The number six is of prime importance, and, generally speaking, most people can easily conceive that the number six is quite plainly a number equated with Satan. In the same way, most people can easily conceive that the number seven is a number equated with God, and not with Satan. Therefore, the first thing we have to look at is the development of the number six, and how it came to be significant in using it to designate the marking of Satan's people. To do this, we must go back to the beginning of the Bible account and look at the order of creation.

God has created the world within a certain pattern. The days of creation describe this pattern, and if we look at the pattern we can more easily see what the finished product should look like. And what I would like you to zero in on is the creation of animals and man, which took part on the sixth day of all that God created. As Revelation 13:18 tells us, the number of a man is 666. The three sixes are not just three individual sixes, but a number which is moved up to the power of the tenth each time. The first number is six, the second number is 60, and the third number is six hundred. Adding each set of numbers together doesn't give us 6 plus 6 plus 6, but rather the number six hundred and sixty six. It is the addition of these numbers together which are significant.

Now, just in case this explanation is confusing, as well it can be, just remember that we're looking at symbolism, and that the Bible is clearly full of symbolism. Symbolism is what separates between the people who can hear and understand, and the people who can't. If you're a Christian, then God has given you his Holy Spirit for the purpose of revealing himself to you. If you're not a Christian, then you don't have the Holy Spirit, and the best you can do is look at the plain physical outward aspect of things. Humans are physically oriented, not spiritually oriented, and therefore, flesh and blood humans look at things in the physical sense. It takes a born again experience to become spiritually oriented. When you're born again, you receive God's Holy Spirit, and the Holy Spirit begins to show you the spiritual things of God which you were not previously able to see. So, when you think about these symbolic Bible prophecies, try to comprehend the spiritual meaning instead of just thinking about it in the physical way.

So, getting back to the sixth day of creation, God created animals and man. But everyone knows that after creating animals and man on the sixth day, God rested on the seventh day. Actually this means that God ceased to create on the seventh day. He didn't rest from

weariness, he ceased to work because he finished his creation. And this is important. Although mankind was created on the sixth day, the same as animals, God never intended man to remain associated with the sixth day. Animals would always be animals, but God made man to be special. God created man as a creature that could enter into God's rest, which was the seventh day.

Now, before someone jumps on the bandwagon and claims that this means that we should rest on Saturday, I want you to see that the rest that God was demonstrating was the ceasing from his own works, not ceasing from labor which was tiring. God doesn't get tired. If you think God gets tired, you've really missed the boat already. He won't get tired, because he is the Almighty God, and therefore there is nothing that can deter him from anything. Anyway, just as God ceased from his own works after six days of creation, it is the ceasing from our own works that will bring us into the rest of God. Jesus Christ is our rest. It is because Jesus died for us that we are able to enter into an eternal kingdom with God. But mankind upon the earth has to make a choice. They will have to decide whether or not to accept God's rest as their method of obtaining entry into an eternal kingdom, or, they will have to choose to create that kingdom themselves.

And this is where mankind has to cross over. This is the point of being born again or not being born again. Man can choose to remain a creation of the sixth day if he wants to, or he can choose to enter into God's rest and let God create the kingdom for him. Make no mistake. The kingdom of heaven is the eternal kingdom. The kingdoms of earth are not eternal kingdoms, and they're not going to be. The Bible clearly tells us in Haggai 2:22 that when Jesus Christ returns to earth he will overthrow the throne of kingdoms. Mankind has been trying to build kingdoms ever since the beginning. At the Tower of Babel mankind was caught up in Satan's temptation to establish a kingdom on earth by their own might and power that would reach into heaven, instead of relying on God to establish them and bring them into the eternal heavenly kingdom. That's why Zechariah 4:6 tells us that the method of success is not by might, nor by power, but by the Spirit of God. God's kingdom is not an earthly kingdom. And mankind can work themselves to death trying to establish their own power, but in the end it will only be the kingdom of heaven that will stand, and the kingdoms of this world will dissolve into nothingness.

So, to put it very simply, six is the symbol of the sixth day of creation. On that day animals were created, as well as man himself. But animals are not invited into God's rest. It is only mankind to which God has offered the invitation. To enter into God's rest is to cease trying to establish yourself by your own power. It is to cease your own work of lifting yourself up to the place of heaven and allow God to exalt you in his own time. The Tower of Babel was the initial overall symbol of man's attempt to establish himself in an earthly kingdom instead of relying on God completely. But Satan doesn't want us to rely on God. He wants us to trust in the works of our own hands. He knows that if we trust in our own abilities, then this means we are not trusting in God. This is Satan's purpose, for he doesn't want the kingdom of heaven to be established in us, but wants us to reject God's work of redemption and wants us to use our own might and power.

But the only true way that mankind can ever exist eternally is not by the promise of immortality through cloning or bio-technology. Mankind's future can only be established by ceasing from our own works, just as God ceased from his own works when he created the world. But the throne of kingdoms is the prevailing nature on Earth at this time. God calls his people to come out from among them and to be a separate people. He calls his people to cease trying to establish their own righteousness and to allow God to be the Almighty God.

This principle was demonstrated through the Law of Commandments which was handed down to the Children of Israel. The commandments, which were written in stone, called for the people to cease their works on each seventh day, and on other special Sabbaths which God established for them. The Law of Commandments was given for a time to Israel, and Israel alone, in order that the world might come to see the pattern of heavenly things. In the Law of Commandments, the concept of God's rest was established. The pattern of God's rest was demonstrated by Israel's keeping of the various Sabbath days. But when Jesus Christ came, he brought an end to the commandments which had been written in stone in order that the next stage of the heavenly pattern might be understood by God's people. In this stage of God's plan, it was no longer just the Children of Israel who were called to be God's people, but now all nations of Earth could come to God through the saving grace of Jesus Christ.

Up until this time Israel had not been able to enter into God's rest. Even though they observed the physical days of Sabbath keeping, they still were unable to enter God's rest because they could not comprehend that the way to heaven was not through their own works. It was not by doing this or doing that or keeping this commandment or keeping that commandment which was going to save mankind and allow him to enter into the heavenly realm of God's kingdom. God's pattern for mankind's ultimate survival was established by the Law of Commandments, but his full plan was revealed through Jesus Christ. The people at the Tower of Babel had attempted to ensure their own survival and their own eventual quest for heaven by the works of their own hands. Israel, under the Law of Commandments, was essentially attempting to accomplish the same thing. Both examples demonstrated a people who were attempting to attain the righteousness of God within the realm of earthly strength. But God is the Almighty God, and he wants all the people of Earth to know that the only way to attain the righteousness of God and to be able to come into God's heavenly realm is only by the power of God himself and by no other means.

If you are a Christian, then you have come to know the difference between right and wrong. Previously you had attempted to be righteous, as God is righteous, by trying to observe righteousness within the boundaries of your own ability to be good. But one day you finally realized what the Bible had been saying all along, that you were never going to be good enough to set yourself on high. You realized you were never going to attain heaven just by trying to match the righteousness of God. You, as a Christian, now know that it is only through the righteousness of Jesus Christ that you can ever make it into heaven. But you see, that is God's rest. It is when you finally cease to rely on your own works and finally begin to rely on Jesus Christ to save you, that you finally find that promise of reward. To enter into God's rest is the only way that mankind can ever hope to survive. Heaven cannot be reached

because you build a high tower, even if that high tower ends up being the greatest technological feat of your lifetime. You will be granted access to the heavenly realm of God only when you cease your attempt of getting there by your own works. It is by allowing God to be the power for you that will finally give you entry into his kingdom.

Satan does not rely on God. Satan has, from the beginning of his rebellion, determined within himself to exalt himself above the throne of God, and has also continually tempted mankind with the promise that they can do it themselves, and that they do not need God. Mankind has gone after the power of self rule ever since the beginning, and the population of Earth has been bathed in a literal blood bath on a continual basis by man's desire for a throne. As it says in Hebrews, chapter 4, Israel could not enter into God's rest even though they had physically stopped working on God's Sabbaths. This is because God's rest cannot be attained by physically resting, but only by the ceasing from our own attempt at reaching heaven by our own goodness. We can not attain heaven by trying to be good, any more than the people at the Tower of Babel could attain heaven by using their own power. It is when man ceases to rely on his own power, and accepts the power of God, that mankind finally escapes the earthly chains and can enter heaven. To enter God's rest is to accept God as not just a help, but as the sole power. To enter God's seventh day rest is to cease from our own labor for righteousness.

However, if mankind will cease to rely on his own might and power, then he will be able to shrug off the covering of natural man and will then put on the robe of righteousness. In this sense man moves from a flesh and blood creation of the sixth day, into a spiritual creation of the seventh day. Man enters the spiritual realm of God by ceasing from his own attempts at righteousness, and therefore his number is no longer six, but seven. He is recognized as a creation of God's rest.

This concept of the number six and the number seven is at the core of prophecy for the last days. It is the designation of six from which mankind needs to escape. And it is the designation of seven which brings that escape. To be born again in spirit, and therefore to depend on God's strength alone for eternal life, is the rest of God, and God's seventh day of creation in which he ceased his work is the key for man's eternal life. It will not be reached with the strength of Earthly powers, no matter how hard man tries. To enter into God's rest is absolutely necessary. But the entering in is not just by physical ceasing from work. This is only the first step. There are two more steps to the process, and next week we'll continue the discussion. The three steps of ceasing from our own works and entering God's rest is equated with body, soul, and spirit. Certainly, 666 is the number of Satan's people, but God's people will not be marked with the mark of Satan, but with the name of God. Please join us next week for this continued discussion. Thanks!

Part 11

Hello! Thanks for being with us. Welcome back to part 11 of Revelation's synopsis of end time events. This week I would like to continue where I left off last week concerning the work of the 2nd beast of Revelation 13, and its work of establishing the mark of the beast in humans.

If you listened to last week's broadcast, then you heard how important it is to enter into God's rest, and of how God's seventh day rest of his creation week is at the very core of understanding the number six. If you missed last week's message, then please feel free to contact us and ask for that message. You can also request the complete series of John's synopsis in Revelation. Whatever you ask for is free, and there is no cost or obligation to you. There is no shipping or handling charges, and we don't send out letters asking you to donate. We are truly trying to trust God for the finances to continue this radio ministry, and so we don't expect you to provide those finances. We know that's what ministries generally do, but we have determined that we won't do it that way. We intend to trust God for our finances, and if God doesn't provide, then we will just not broadcast anymore. However, God is providing, so please, if you would like a CD of anything, please ask. We send the CDs along with the written transcript of the messages so that you can either listen to the messages, or read the messages, or you can listen and follow along with the written transcript at the same time. So, please don't hesitate to contact us. We would love to hear from you. And, oh yes, we also invite questions. This ministry is a teaching ministry. Questions are a staple with us. If we can help to answer your questions, please contact us. Thanks!

Now, let's continue with our discussion. I'd like you to focus on the concept of six being the state of man as he was created on the sixth day, and also that 7 is the number that represents the state of man when he ceases the attempt at establishing himself on the earth by the strength of his own hands. Entering into God's rest is the act of ceasing to use your own animalistic might and power and allowing God to be the Almighty God that he is. When the people of Earth first began to establish the throne of kingdoms at the Tower of Babel, they were demonstrating their sixth day animal nature. They were representing symbolically mankind's sixth day nature. On the sixth day animals were created. On the sixth day man was also created. Mankind, from the beginning, had an opportunity to align themselves with the animal kingdom of the sixth day, or to reject the beast nature of earth and choose to be aligned with the spiritual nature of God. If man chooses to align himself with the spiritual nature of God, then he enters into God's rest of the seventh day. Just as God intended from the beginning, mankind is allowed to choose. They can either choose to remain an earthly flesh and blood creation, as they were created on the sixth day, or they can choose to be born again, and become a spirit being which is in tune with the spirit nature of God.

God is a spirit. Man is not a spirit being. Man was first created with an animalistic nature of flesh and blood which could not enter into God's rest. They could not enter into God's rest because they could not shake off the fleshly concept of having to establish themselves with the brute strength of the human nature. It is contrary for mankind to believe in God and to trust in him. But to all those who will believe, God has given the ability to be born again, thereby coming out of their flesh and blood beast state and into the spiritual realm of heaven. In the beginning, Satan rejected the spiritual nature of God's righteousness in exchange for his own power. This world was established on the basis of the power and might of man. However, it was never God's intention that men should remain in the earthly state where might and power rules. It was God's intention from the beginning for mankind to choose to believe in God and to choose to trust in his power rather than to believe in himself and to trust in his own abilities.

In Zechariah 4:6, we have an interesting scripture which is quoted quite often in Christian circles, yet without a great deal of understanding. Let me first read this scripture, and then break it down and try to give it some more clarity. It is a scripture that is of utmost importance to Christians because it gives us directions to trust in God through his Holy Spirit rather than relying on our own strength as humans. Let me read Zechariah 4, verses 5 and 6. It says, "Then the angel that talked with me answered and said unto me, Know you not what these are? And I said, No, my lord. 6 Then he answered and spoke unto me, saying, This is the word of the LORD unto Zerubbabel, saying, Not by might, nor by power, but by my Spirit, says the LORD of hosts."

Now, just in case you're not familiar with these verses, let me give some background. The book of Zechariah was written by Zechariah, who was a prophet of the Lord in the days when the Children of Israel were allowed to leave the captivity of Babylon and return to Jerusalem to rebuild the temple. Zerubbabel was the governor of the returning nation of Israel, who had overseen the laying of the new temple foundation. Because the task of rebuilding the temple was great, and because they were trying to rebuild the beautiful temple which Solomon had originally built, there was very much disappointment in the initial results in that it could not compare with the original, and the work was very difficult. What the prophet Zechariah was given to speak to the children of Israel was God's explanation that the establishment of the temple of God in Jerusalem was not going to be accomplished by the strength of men, but by the strength of God's Holy Spirit.

What Zechariah saw was a vision of a lampstand with seven lamps on it, and two olive trees which supplied oil to the lamps. It was explained to Zechariah that this was God's word, and that it described the concept of God's kingdom on Earth which was not going to be accomplished by either by might or by power, but by God's Holy Spirit. Notice that the verses I just read describe two forms of strength. The scripture uses the word 'might' and the word 'power'. These words both describe strength, but from two different perspectives. The word 'might' comes from the concept of strength of resources or abilities which can be applied to a given task, and the word 'power' comes from the concept of having strength to stand firm, such as a rock that will not break when struck, but instead will be so hard as to give off a spark. Therefore, might is the application of force, and power is the ability to withstand force which is applied from another aspect. Might and power is both the offensive and the defensive nature of strength.

But, this is the basic problem with the world. The people of this world who operate according to the animal nature instead of God's spirit nature, want to rely on their own ability to stand up before others, and they want to rely on their own ability to make others fall down before them. In neither instance do they rely on the God of heaven to lift them up. This is the overall concept of the two natures which inhabit this world. The initial nature of man is the beast nature, in that man was created along with the beasts of the earth. But the eventual nature of mankind is intended to be spiritual, and to become aligned with God himself. When we enter into this right relationship with God and set aside our own reliance on Earth's might and

power, it is then, and only then, that we enter into God's rest, for we have ceased from our own works. We no longer attempt to establish our own selves by our own strength.

However, in understanding the number of six hundred and sixty six, we must realize that the number is not made up of just the number six, nor is the number made up of three individual sixes. But, the number is made up of the number 6, plus 60, plus 600. It is through the perspective of body, soul, and spirit that we begin to comprehend the structure of Satan's number.

And yes, I know this is confusing, but I'm not finished with the explanation yet. The real understanding of the number six hundred and sixty six is hidden in symbolic form in order to withhold the knowledge from the wicked. But God's people need to come out of the deception of Satan and begin to understand the mark, name, and number of the beast in order to wash their robes and make them white again before Jesus comes. It is time to repent and to come out from among the people of Earth, but we can only do that when we know what we have been drawn into. God's people, right along with the wicked, have been drawn into the deception of trusting in their own might and power instead of trusting in the power of God's Holy Spirit. When you cease from the use of your own strength to establish yourself, you enter into God's rest. In essence, you have chosen to submit yourself to God and to make him your Lord. You no longer are trying to do it yourself. This is the process of coming out of the sixth day state of creation and into the seventh day nature of God's rest. You have ceased from your beast nature of self power. This is the concept of the difference between the six and the seven, and therefore, it is the difference between the mark, name, and number of Satan, and the mark, number, and name of God.

When this marking, naming, or numbering system is described in Revelation 13:17-18, it is describing the designation of ownership which is applied to the wicked. When a person is deemed to have become a servant of Satan, then the mark, name, or number is applied. And this is very important. Whether you are designated as belonging to Satan by being marked, or by having his name, or by having his number, is the same thing. It is just referring to the ultimate designation of ownership that the Bible is referring to. And this too may be confusing, but try to think of it this way. If a person demonstrates certain traits often enough, it can be said of them that they bear the mark of that trait or personality. And if a person is considered to be part of a certain family, then they bear the name of that family. And lastly, when we look at the symbolic structure of scripture, and the nature of numbers in the Bible, we can see that different numbers describe different attributes. One of the clearest examples of a number in scripture which exemplifies a specific personality trait is the number seven. It is God to which the number seven is ascribed. In no way is Satan ever considered to be equated with the number seven. But then, we already know that six hundred and sixty six is equated with evil.

But also, try to consider this. The saints of God are also described in scripture as being marked with the mark or name of God. Let me give you some examples of this. In Ezekiel 9:4-6 it says, "And the LORD said unto him, Go through the midst of the city, through the midst of Jerusalem, and set a mark upon the foreheads of the men that sigh and that cry because of all the abominations that are done in the midst of it. 5 And to the others he said in

my hearing, Go after him through the city, and smite: let not your eye spare, neither have pity: 6 Slay utterly old and young, both maids, and little children, and women: but do not come near any man upon whom is the mark; and begin at my sanctuary. Then they began with the ancient men which were before the house.”

Now, notice that this scripture was a prophetic reference by God saying that those men who hated the abominations of the wicked were to be spared by first designating them with a mark on the forehead which would separate them from the wicked. The wicked would be destroyed, but the righteous would be spared because the destroying angel would see the mark of God on their forehead and would spare them.

Here's another scripture. Revelation 3:12 says, “Him that overcomes will I make a pillar in the temple of my God, and he shall go out no more: and I will write upon him the name of my God, and the name of the city of my God, which is new Jerusalem, which comes down out of heaven from my God: and I will write upon him my new name.” Here the scripture refers not to the mark of God, but to the name of God that is applied to the forehead.

Now we have yet another scripture in Revelation 7:2-3. It says, “And I saw another angel ascending from the east, having the seal of the living God: and he cried with a loud voice to the four angels, to whom it was given to hurt the earth and the sea, 3 Saying, Do not hurt the earth, nor the sea, nor the trees, until we have sealed the servants of our God in their foreheads.” Here again is scripture which is a reference to protection provided to God's servants by having God's seal, or marking, in their foreheads. Another scripture which presents the same picture is Revelation 9:4, which says, “And it was commanded them that they should not hurt the grass of the earth, neither any green thing, neither any tree; but only those men which do not have the seal of God in their foreheads.” In this case the designation of God's people is made with a mark, which seals them, which is essentially the permanent designation of being sons of God. Once these people receive the mark of God in their foreheads, they no longer are subject to being destroyed by Satan. Their eternal salvation is assured.

Now, one more scripture. Revelation 14:1, says, “And I looked, and, behold, a Lamb stood on mount Zion, and with him one hundred and forty four thousand, having his Father's name written in their foreheads.” Once again, here are righteous people marked with God's name in their foreheads.

And, the last scripture I'll give you is Revelation 22:1-4, which describes our Lord's Kingdom in the New Jerusalem, which is in the new earth. It says, “And he showed me a pure river of water of life, clear as crystal, proceeding out of the throne of God and of the Lamb. 2 In the midst of the street of it, and on either side of the river, was the tree of life, which bore twelve kinds of fruit, and yielded her fruit every month: and the leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations. 3 And there shall be no more curse: but the throne of God and of the Lamb shall be in it; and his servants shall serve him: 4 And they shall see his face; and his name shall be in their foreheads.”

Now, these scriptures have described a marking or name of God in God's righteous people. And the important thing to consider is that the mark or name of God is written in the foreheads of his children to show who owns them, and it is clearly not a physical branding or marking. The references to a mark, name, or number in the forehead is spiritual. We don't have to have a physical mark in order to be designated as righteous people or to be designated as wicked people. Our ownership is determined, not by a physical mark, name, or number, but by a spiritual mark, name, or number.

In essence, when people are wicked, God designates them as belonging to Satan. And when people put their faith and trust in the living God, then God designates them as his own children. We will be designated as belonging to either Satan or to God. The designation is a spiritual mark, name, or in the sense of belonging to Satan, a number of six hundred and sixty six.

Now, let's begin to break these down into their different categories. We won't have much time this week to finish this aspect of the meaning of six hundred and sixty six, but I will continue the explanation next week. I don't want you to become confused, but if you follow this through, you will see the connection to the three parts of the six hundred and sixty six being described from the testimony that comes from the body, soul, and spirit of a man.

Anyway, think of this. When you were formed, you were a three part person. You're a bit of an interesting creation, for you were formed to have three parts; a body, a soul, and a spirit. It is these three parts of a man which give testimony, or should we say, which witness of the man's convictions and his determinations. Who and what you are is determined by your three parts.

The first part of you is a soul. It is a living soul, in that it breathes. You are alive. Now, we know that God is a spirit, and angels are spirits, but they are alive even though they do not have flesh and blood bodies. We know that animals are alive, and in one sense they have souls, but only in the simple sense of being able to breath. However, they have no comprehension or awareness of God or of spiritual things. Animals are brute, in the sense that they cannot comprehend eternal things, such as God and his salvation. Animals cannot contemplate God, and they cannot meditate on spiritual things. But in our current discussion it is important to understand that humans are living souls. Souls are the existence of a person, which is essentially their thoughts, convictions, and beliefs which form them. The body of a person does not contain their thoughts, convictions and beliefs. It is the mind of man which contains his thoughts. And no, the physical brain is not the thoughts. If the physical flesh and blood brain was necessary to think, then there could be no concept of Abraham in paradise, or in heavenly or demonic spirits having thoughts. The thoughts of man are in his innermost being, and not in the outward bodily form, for it is the body of man which outwardly demonstrates man's thoughts, convictions, and beliefs. In this aspect, one human being can come to know another human being. Without bodies, other bodies can't comprehend the existence of another body. But then, with the addition of a spirit, there can be knowledge of another.

We know God in spirit. We know God because his spirit reveals him to us. We also know God because Jesus Christ, as God in the flesh, has also revealed God to us. It is these two testimonies of God, his Spirit and his Flesh, that have revealed God to us. It is these two witnesses which testify of who and what God is. In this way, humans on the earth are able to come to know God. In the flesh and blood aspect of God, which Jesus portrayed, humans came to see the attributes of God. They were able to see God. If God had not been revealed by the flesh and blood body of Jesus, humans would never have been able to know God. However, the testimony of God given by Jesus was only one witness to the Almightyness of God. The other witness which has been given in the earth is the Holy Spirit. The Spirit of God testifies of God's Almightyness also, and God's children who receive the Holy Spirit can come to know God in a much greater way than in just seeing him manifested in the flesh and blood body of Jesus.

Now, notice that I've been indicating that there is a testimony of God's goodness which is given by the Holy Spirit and by the Son of God, Jesus Christ. It is these two testimonies, coupled with God's own testimony of himself, which establish God's thoughts, convictions, and beliefs. In exactly the same way, each human being is constantly giving a three part testimony of his own thoughts, convictions, and beliefs. And these three testimonies, these three witnesses, are establishing who and what he really is.

But now, we've run out of time. We're going to have to wait until next week to continue this explanation. I hope you can be with us. And remember, the messages are free. Please join us next week. Thanks!

Part 12

Hello! Thanks for being with us. Welcome back to part 12 of Revelation's synopsis of end time events. This week I would like to continue the explanation of being marked with the number, six hundred and sixty six, and how this takes place. Last week I described the concept of the marking of God's people with the name or mark of God in their foreheads. I also gave an initial explanation about the three parts of God, which are the same three parts of mankind who are created, with a soul, body, and spirit. It is these three parts of God, and also these three parts of mankind which give the testimony as to who and what each particular individual is.

And, this testimony, this witness, which is given concerning every person, is a very important concept to understand. Three witnesses is the number of witnesses which are required in scripture to establish justice, or to establish the truth of any matter. In the Old Testament, under the Law of Commandments, any life or death matter could not be determined by the testimony of only one witness. If there was only one testimony for an accused man, that testimony had to be thrown out. But, if there were two that witnessed against the man, or three, then that man could be condemned. In any situation the judge of that situation would

listen to the testimonies and then make a determination, based on at least two or three qualified witnesses.

This same concept of requiring two or three witnesses to establish truth is still referred to in the New Testament. Jesus referred to his own testimony as being unacceptable by itself. In fact, let me read these verses of scripture and you can see what I mean. In John, chapter 5, starting with verse 31, it says, "If I bear witness of myself, my witness is not true. 32 There is another that bears witness of me; and I know that the witness which he witnesses of me is true."

Notice that in the first verse I read, verse 31, Jesus is explaining to the Jews that if he gave witness of himself, his witness was not true unless it was coupled with another witness. He further explains in verse 33, that John the Baptist testified of him, yet, in verse 34, Jesus explains that testimony from a man, a human, would not qualify as a witness for him, and then explains in verses 36 and 37, that it is the other two testimonies of the Father and the Holy Spirit which give testimony of him, and that these other two witnesses do qualify. In essence, God the Father had testified openly, speaking from heaven, that Jesus was his son, and thus confirming that Jesus Christ was indeed the Word of God. In addition, it was the Holy Spirit which testified of Jesus by enabling Jesus to do miracles. We know that the power of God comes through the Holy Spirit, and that the miracles that Jesus did confirmed once again that God truly was in him. If God had not been working through Jesus with the power of the Holy Spirit, Jesus could not have done the miracles and wonders.

And, looking again at John 5:31, we see that Jesus himself stated that his own witness was not true if he was only testifying of himself without the further testimony of God and the Holy Spirit. This of itself proves that one witness, or one testimony, is not sufficient to establish the truth of any matter. If there had been any word spoken on Earth which could have stood alone by testimony of just that one single person, it would have been the word of Jesus. But, even Jesus told us that his word was not a true word if the only testimony was from him alone. This concept of requiring three witnesses, or should we say, three different testimonies, in order to establish truth in any matter is an absolute necessity. However, just as in any courtroom, other evidence can be introduced other than just verbal testimony. Let me explain this perspective a little more clearly.

If you yourself were taken into court and prosecuted as a murderer, and someone testified against you, that person may give damaging testimony against you, but the judge is not going to condemn you just on the testimony of one person. In order to condemn you there would have to be other testimony of some kind. Either there would have to be other people who could give testimony as to your guilt, or there would have to be extenuating evidence to add to it such as fingerprints on a weapon, or blood on your clothes, etc. In essence, whether the testimony against you would be accepted or not would depend on all the evidence available, and the final verdict would be given according to which way the majority of the evidence pointed.

Now, it is important to realize something here which is very specific. The evidence that a judge uses in any given situation is evidence that can be recognized as qualified evidence. Once again, let me explain, and we'll use the same example of you being hauled into court and prosecuted for murder. Let's say that someone gives testimony to the judge that you have killed a person, shooting them with a revolver on a Saturday. Then suppose that person brings in a friend of his who also testifies that he saw you kill a person. Now, of course this would seem to be all the evidence that is needed. However, let's say that the second witness tells a slightly different story, and places the time of murder on a Tuesday, and also testifies that the murder weapon was a knife.

Of course what we have here is two different testimonies. One witness says you killed the person on a Saturday with a revolver, and the other witness says you killed the person on a Tuesday with a knife. The two testimonies would not be in agreement, and therefore one or both of these testimonies could not be accepted in a court of Law. This same concept is the concept that Jesus spoke of in John 5:34, which says that the testimony of a man cannot be accepted to establish the word of Jesus as to whether it was true or not. Jesus said that man's testimony is unacceptable because the only testimony of God, his Son, and his Holy Spirit has to come from God himself. Testimony of a man which claims that God is true and righteous is good, and can possibly be helpful or even damaging to a certain extent. But in the end, when the evidence is weighed, it could only be the testimony of God himself which could be acceptable, for who on earth can know the mind of God, and who on earth can know who and what God really is? Sure, we can know God, but that is only after the truth of God's word is established in our hearts. Until the truth is established in our hearts, we can't give testimony of him, because we weren't with God when his word was first established. In essence, man's testimony is only testimony in the second person, not the first person. The testimony in any given judgment cannot be testimony which is hearsay testimony. It can only be testimony from those who were actually present at the time in question.

We Christians certainly do believe God, but we only believe after the three witnesses of God have been established in our hearts. Therefore, our testimony of God's righteousness is good, but it is only hearsay evidence, for we speak testimony that we have heard of him, not that we have witnessed actually being produced. The testimony of a man is only testifying of what he has heard from others and then believed himself, and not knowledge he has gained from being in heaven with God. It is for this reason that once God has spoken his word, the real truth of God must be established by the witness of one or two others who are qualified to have been with God when his word was established. And, the only witnesses to God's word that he always was and ever will be can only be given by those who also always were and ever will be. Therefore, these two other witnesses must be Jesus Christ and God's Holy Spirit. There are no other entities which can claim to know God so well as to proclaim his word as absolute truth. And also, because God is only one God and not three Gods, the three witnesses of God are actually three witnesses of God from each person of his three aspects.

It is this same witness concept in which you will either be condemned or pardoned. It is the two or three witnesses which you yourself give which will establish your guilt or your

innocence when you stand before God on the great judgement day. God is not going to condemn you to hell or pardon your iniquity forever unless there are at least two witnesses which can give testimony as to your guilt or innocence. But make no mistake. There certainly will be two or three witnesses for every person on earth. Just as God first testified of himself when he spoke his word in heaven and on earth, you yourself will speak your word on earth, and it will be judged as to whether it is true or false testimony. If you testify that you believe God, and that you have accepted Jesus Christ as Lord, then your testimony will be evaluated as to whether your confession is true or false. God's word was established, not because he spoke it, but because Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit gave testimony to it. The Holy Spirit is proven to be the true Holy Spirit of God's word because God the Father and Jesus Christ have testified that the Holy Spirit is God's Spirit and that it truly does do the works of the Father. The word of Jesus Christ is proven to be true because the Father and the Holy Spirit give testimony that the words of Jesus is proven to be absolutely true. It is the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit which give testimony concerning the truth. And in these three witnesses, truth is established in our hearts.

But your word must also be established. The thoughts, convictions, and beliefs in you must be looked at, and it must be judged whether these thoughts, convictions, and beliefs line up with the word of God, or if they actually line up with the word of Satan. If your heart is truly established on the word of God, then your spirit and your body will give testimony to that truth. However, if the thoughts, convictions, and beliefs in your heart are actually the lies of Satan, than that will be brought out in God's court of law also.

There are three witnesses which give testimony as to what really abides in the heart of God, and there are also three witnesses which give testimony as to what really abides in the heart of man. And, it is the heart of man that will be judged by God. It won't be the works of man that will get him into heaven, and it won't be the flowery words that he speaks that gets him into heaven. The only thing that will get a man into heaven is that the truth of God is found to be in his heart.

If you truly have God's word established in your heart, then you will be given the reward of eternal life with God. However, if what has been established in your heart is the lies of Satan, then you will be cast out of the presence of God forever. When you stand before God, he will judge your heart. But it is the three testimonies which you yourself give that will establish your guilt or innocence.

The three testimonies which establish God's truth in heaven and on earth are the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. These three parts of God are all God, for there is only one God. But you also are made up of three parts, your father part, your son part, and your spirit part. Just as with God, your father part is the authority part over your other two parts. Just as God is the authority over his Holy Spirit, your father part, your soul, is the authority over your spirit. And just as Jesus Christ, the body of God, is the Son part of God, your body is the son part of you, and your father part is the authority over it.

Your soul is your father part. It is the authority part of you, and it is where the thoughts, convictions, and beliefs abide in you. It is you, down deep inside. Your soul is who you really are. It is your heart, your soul, your innermost being. That is your father part, which has authority over your spirit and over your body. When you stand one day before the judgment of God, God will look on your heart in order to determine your destiny. What he sees of your innermost being will determine whether you are to be given eternal life with him, or to be cast out of his presence forever. And in order to determine the state of your heart in God's courtroom, the evidence will come from the three testimonies which you give of yourself. What is actually in your heart will be established by the testimony of your lips, and by the testimony of your spirit, and by the testimony of your flesh. These three witnesses will establish what is truly in your heart. One testimony will not be sufficient, but it will take two or three testimonies to condemn or pardon you.

Now, let's break this down specifically as to the individual testimonies. What you speak from your lips is your confession. However, what you speak from your lips cannot be considered to be the absolute truth until there is more testimony given from the other two sources. Plainly speaking, what you utter from your lips can be either lies or truth. You can claim to confess Jesus Christ as Lord, but just claiming Jesus as your Lord is not sufficient. Every man who stands before the judgment seat of Christ will have to give more than one testimony in order to prove that the confession which issues forth from his lips is actually the truth. Many people will come to Jesus in that day and claim that he is their Lord, but we know from Matthew 7:21-23, that false claims will be common. Many people claim to make Jesus Lord of their lives, but many of these claims are false. When testimony is given by the lips of a man, then God will look at the other two witnesses of the man to determine if the first witness is a true witness of the thoughts, convictions, and beliefs of his heart, or if what is truly in his heart is the unrighteous ways of Satan. And exactly how it is done goes like this.

As man lives his life on earth, he continually speaks from his lips what is on his heart. In addition to this witness of his heart, he is moved by many different things. It is the spirit of a man that searches the man's heart, and which moves the man toward speech and action. The words of a man are transferred from the heart of a man to the outward part of the man, his body, by the spirit of man. This principle is found in 1 Corinthians, chapter 2, and explains the concept of man's spirit or God's spirit searching the deep hidden things of the heart, and then revealing those things to others. In verse ten we see that the Holy Spirit of God must first search out the deep things of God before it can reveal them to mankind. In the same way, the spirit of man searches the heart of man and reveals what is hidden deep in his heart by moving the body to respond in kind.

The spirit is the liaison between the innermost thoughts, convictions, and beliefs of a man's heart, and the outward manifestation of those thoughts, convictions, and beliefs. What a man has in his heart is found by his spirit, and then his spirit, after discovering what actually lies within the heart of the man, moves the man's body to demonstrate what was found. If there is wickedness in a man's heart, then his spirit will find wickedness in that heart, and will then move the man's flesh and blood body to demonstrate that wickedness. In this case, the spirit of

the man is evil. It is a spirit that has found wickedness in the heart of the man and will now move his fleshly body to act according to that wickedness.

It doesn't take too much insight to comprehend that what is in a man's heart is eventually shown outwardly by his words and actions. Just as Jesus spoke God's word, and acted in accord with God's word, and also demonstrated the power of God by the Holy Spirit, we also speak our word, act in accord with our word, and our spirit is the power that moves us to do the works which come from the thoughts, convictions, and beliefs which occupy our innermost being, the heart of us, our soul. And this is the most important part of the principle concerning the number six hundred and sixty six, as referred to in Revelation 13:17-18. Just as there are three levels to the number six, the six, plus sixty, plus 600, there are also three levels to the testimony of a man, which is the testimony of soul, the testimony of spirit, and the testimony of the outward man. Six hundred and sixty six is a number which demonstrates the resulting judgment of a man who's soul, spirit, and body give testimony of the man's wicked thoughts, convictions, and beliefs. The six is the basic number, because it represents the man who is still equated with the beast nature because he is still equated with the sixth day of creation because he has not rejected the fleshly animal nature and entered into the seventh day rest of God. But the soul, the spirit, and the body of a man are designated in three levels of understanding. The six is the basic number. But 60 implies this number of six as extending further, and of course the 600 is the final end of the matter, the man having given himself over to complete worship of the devil.

Such a man as this is a wicked man, and therefore is assigned ownership by Satan. The designation of ownership by Satan can be either by mark, name, or by number. The three forms only differ in respect of how ownership of the man is determined. But, whether it is by name, number, or mark, the result is the same. When a man has the mark of wickedness, we can easily see that evil spirits control that man. When the man has the name of Satan, then we can easily see that the man's nature is attributable to Satan. The number 666 is just one more way to show that the designation of ownership to Satan has been assigned to that man, but it also describes the underlying principle that the final determination has been accomplished by evaluating all three witnesses which the man has given of himself, and that the three aspects of soul, spirit, and body, have testified that the man's heart is wicked.

Well, once again, we're out of time. So, next week I will extend this explanation somewhat, and will compare it with the Tower of Babel, as well as the golden image of Nebuchadnezzar, king of Babylon. This too, is an important aspect, for the golden image of Nebuchadnezzar demonstrates the second instance of worshiping the beast on earth, just as it is worshiped according to the Bible verses in Revelation 13:15. Next week we'll take a look at the number 6, as the initial aspect of worshiping the beast, then we'll look at the number 60, which is the second aspect of worshiping the beast, and then we'll look at the number 600, which is the final aspect of worshiping the beast. Yes, it is difficult to understand because God has clothed his word in a great deal of symbolism in order that the wicked will not understand. However, when understanding finally comes to the wise, it is tremendously interesting, and also gives great incentive to come out of the world and be separate, just as we have been told to do. I

hope you can be with us next week for part 13 of Revelation's short synopsis. Thanks for joining us.

Part 13

Hello! Thanks for being with us. Welcome back to part 13 of Revelation's synopsis of end time events. This week I would like to continue the explanation of being marked with the number, six hundred and sixty six. And this time I would like to take a closer look at the three different levels which make up the number six hundred and sixty six. And, once again, I would like to remind you that if you would like a copy of any of our messages, please contact us and ask for them. They are free, and there is no shipping or handling charge.

Now, in this portion of the series I would like to take a look at the three level concept of the number, six hundred and sixty six. As I said before, the number is six hundred and sixty six, and not just three sixes. It is made up on the numbers 6, 60, and 600, and this number is used to indicate the number of a man who worships the 1st beast of Revelation 13 and also worships his image.

First of all, we need to look at the first level, which is six. As I've mentioned before in previous messages from this Revelation's synopsis series, six is the number of the day of creation in which animals and man were created. Man was created on the same day as were the beasts of the earth, and man has an option to remain animalistic in nature or to reject the animal nature of flesh and blood and to be born again in spirit. But mankind starts out with the first level of six in that his perspective is from the physical flesh and blood standpoint, without being able to comprehend much else. Man, in his initial beast state, just eats and drinks and plays without ever contemplating God, or recognizing that he should look to God as the only alternative to the beast nature, rejecting it, and being born again in spirit. If man rejects the beast nature and begins to believe and trust in the Almighty God of heaven, he can be born again and can receive God's Holy Spirit. Man then shrugs off his beast nature, becomes a spirit being, and receives the Holy Spirit of God which allows him to enter into a relationship with God. This is very important from the eternal perspective because, as the Bible says, "flesh and blood shall not inherit the kingdom of heaven."

It is imperative that we reject the beast nature and accept Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior, who is God's word, and which was demonstrated in the flesh. The flesh and blood creation of man is not our final destiny. We were not made to settle down on earth in our present beast state, but to be born again in spirit. But mankind is very wicked. Satan has seen to that by tempting mankind with all kinds of fleshly temptations. And because mankind is flesh and blood, man is very sensitive to evil temptations of the flesh.

In this perspective, man was first created to be flesh and blood and therefore to have a flesh and blood outlook on life. In just a relatively short time on earth, mankind became very wicked. Actually, what took place in the earth was the loss of understanding of the things of God, and the increase of deception. By the time the first kingdom of Babylon was established

and the Tower of Babel built, mankind had sunk into physical oblivion from the concepts of an Almighty God who was their creator. And, because of the degenerate mind of man, the first initial aspect of the three levels of six hundred and sixty six was demonstrated with the initial building of the Tower of Babel. At that time mankind had forgotten that they were creations of God and had determined to build a high tower which would reach to heaven, at least in their own perspective. The purpose of this tower was that they would make a name for themselves instead of being scattered throughout the earth as God had intended. This initial sight of man's eyes was a strictly physical view that is equated with the first level of Satan's number system, the number six.

The building of the tower was not necessarily a move into the spiritual realm, but rather a physical attempt to become high in the earth. The Tower of Babel could be seen. The physical construction of this tower was evident, and the purpose of being exalted on earth only contained the physical concept of getting higher in the earth by actual physical strength. It was self exaltation by trying to lift themselves up physically. To them, getting up meant physical height. However, this initial attempt to exalt themselves without the power and authority of God was enough to demonstrate the evil beast nature of mankind. Satan had done his work well, and had convinced the people of earth that they could be satisfied with making themselves into an exalted people. However, even though God placed a hindrance on the working of Satan by confusing the languages, the evil nature of self exaltation continued to infect the people of earth.

The next level of perspective which can be perceived is the level which incorporates spirit worship, or idol worship. The second level, the 60, incorporates a new perspective which is the worship of something they cannot see. This was a progression of man's comprehension of spiritual things which could be used to exalt themselves. It is at this level that men no longer just look to physical means to lift themselves high on the earth. It is at this level that men incorporate the worship of an unseen being by placing an image of that being before their eyes. The people of earth are physical flesh and blood beings. And even though they are able to comprehend spiritual elements which cannot be measured with the five physical senses of the body, still, because they see through physical eyes, they continue to need something physical to make their contact with the things which are spiritual.

It was the same concept which was demonstrated through the Children of Israel, who needed a physical temple with which to worship a spiritual God. No, they did not need a physical image, as the wicked nations of earth used, for God was in the process of teaching the people of earth that he was a spirit, and that he could be worshiped in spirit. But this third level of worship, of worshipping completely in spirit without having to have any physical support, was only introduced to the world with Jesus Christ at his first coming.

What we are looking at, ultimately, in order to understand the three levels of the number, six hundred and sixty six, is seeing that the transformation of the minds of men from the simple physical flesh and blood beast nature, into the full understanding of spiritual awareness, is a process which takes place over the span of Earth's time. First there was the strictly physical

view in which mankind could see. Then man moved into the second level where they could begin to comprehend the spiritual, but only by using physical idols or temples as a point of contact. But the most important progression for man's comprehension is the third level. At this final level of understanding, the people of earth are able finally to enter into a spiritual relationship with things spiritual, without the need for images of any kind. This is a revelation process, wherein the revealing of spiritual things takes place. Let me give an example here.

When Jesus Christ came to earth as a man, the people of earth could begin to see God. Jesus was God in the flesh, and therefore the people of earth could begin to see a spiritual God by using Jesus as the contact point. In this way, God was further revealed to mankind. Because mankind is a physical flesh and blood creation, God, who is a spirit, has taken man through the process of transforming their minds into understanding spiritual things. And this transformation affects not only God's people, but also the wicked people of earth. Notice that idol worship largely died out from the time of Christ onward. Our historical perspective is that image worship changed dramatically from the time of Christ. In this current day and time, we would think people are dumber than dumb if they actually bowed down to an idol. Of course, idol worship still exists, but not on a scale as was previously practiced.

It is through the final level of mankind's progression that Christians can worship a spiritual God in a completely intimate relationship. The Children of Israel, because they were the forerunners of Christianity, worshiped God with the help of physical structures. At the same time, from the time of the Tower of Babel, the wicked people of earth worshiped their gods with the help of physical images. They had temples with their idols set up in them. The only difference between the Children of Israel and the pagan nations surrounding them was that they were forbidden to set up an image, for God had commanded them not to make any kind of graven image or any likeness of anything, whether heavenly or earthly. Yet, they still needed a physical structure for their God to dwell in, and they still considered God to dwell in the physical location of Jerusalem proper.

But, the transformation which occurred with the first coming of Christ was that mankind was introduced to God as a Spirit, without the need for physical structures or physical locations, and certainly not with physical images. The heathen nations also migrated to this general concept, but not completely. Their images changed from images of stone, wood, and metal which could easily be recognized as idols into idols of stone, wood, and metal which were hidden behind a curtain of deception. Their idols now have taken on different forms. Rather than an image of gold in one corner of their house, it may be an image that moves and speaks. However, it is still set up in a corner of their houses. There are many images, which are just many contact points in which the people of earth can use as contact points for their belief in something that will provide their wants and needs instead of looking to the God of heaven.

The people of earth still worship the stone, wood, and metal of earth, but the images are fashioned much more delicately and in a much more deceptive way than they were previously. Mankind still worships, but the idols have gone incognito. They are hidden to the physical eyes, and the people of earth think that idols no longer exist, and that they no longer worship

them. This is a major deception, not only for the wicked, but also for God's people. Many of God's people, in fact, I think all of God's people, are deceived to a certain extent into worshiping idols without really realizing it. And I even include myself in this category. However, every true Christian, including myself, greatly desires to be delivered from Satan's deception and to worship God purely in truth and in spirit. And I believe the day is coming that we will do that, and I think that day is very near.

Now, the concept of going from the first level of six, to the second level of 60, and then to the third level of 600, can be summed up as the ability of humans to see from different physical and spiritual aspects. The first level, or stage, of eyesight is the strictly physical sight of humans. This is the initial mental ability of a human being, and his ability to see spiritual things is hindered by his flesh and blood animal nature. In this stage of awareness, humans act and react in ways which closely resemble the animal instinct, rather than contemplated thought patterns. Then, the second level, or second stage, of human eyesight comes, bringing comprehension of things spiritual, but only by having physical contact points such as idols and temples. The third level of a humans eyesight is when he enters a spiritual relationship with a spirit being. This spirit being can either be the Holy God of heaven, or it can be an unholy devil. In this stage of human eyesight, Christians, who have been born again in spirit, have entered into this third level of comprehension by having the Holy Spirit of God. By having God's Holy Spirit, Christians can come to know God, be familiar with him, and establish a close relationship with him.

Now, the wicked people of earth enter into this third level of comprehension in the same general way, however, the result is not righteousness because of an indwelling Holy Spirit, but a further wickedness because of an indwelling wicked spirit. This final stage of relationship with Satan brings out Satan's beast nature to its greatest extent. This level, or stage of comprehension, is represented by 600, the spiritual relationship with a spirit being without the need for physical contact points such as idols and temples.

The earth has been created in a base animal form. God's purpose is that those who recognize that God's nature is good, will accept him as Lord. But all those who reject the righteous nature of God will have automatically chosen the animal nature of earth, and will therefore be bound to earthly physical structures and will be cast out of the presence of God forever.

Make no mistake. Satan is a spirit, just as God is a spirit. However, God has caused the beast nature to prevail over Satan for the time of earth's processing, and until these seven times of earth have come to pass, Satan's nature will remain as a beast nature, and all those who form a spiritual relationship with him and allow his spirit to inhabit them will also be saddled with the beast nature. The Bible clearly tells us that flesh and blood will not inherit the kingdom of heaven. The people of earth are flesh and blood. The only way flesh and blood can enter into eternity with God is by being born again with the righteous nature of God's Holy Spirit. To allow Satan's spirit to dwell in you will cause God to reject you. You will, ultimately, lose your flesh and blood body. However, if the spirit of Satan reigns within you, you will not

come into the presence of God, but will remain locked into the animal mind set forever. The nature of the beast will be your eternal reward.

Now, I'd like you to see something interesting. The principle of Satan being turned into a beast is presented symbolically in the book of Daniel. Chapter four describes Nebuchadnezzar, king of Babylon, as being lifted up with pride, and attributing the great kingdom of Babylon to his own might and power. He, king Nebuchadnezzar, was turned into an animal for what the Bible describes as a period of seven times. This biblical story is both true in a historical sense, and is also an allegory. It actually took place with Nebuchadnezzar, king of Babylon, but is also taking place right now on earth with Satan, who is the king of Great Babylon. Daniel's account of the king of Babylon being turned into an animal shows us how God has caused Satan to be turned into an animal until seven times has passed over him. Satan was lifted up in pride, and God changed Satan's nature from his heavenly state into the earthly state, and saddled Satan with the nature of the beast until the symbolic equivalent of Nebuchadnezzar's experience should be accomplished. We don't know if the time period of seven times was 7 months, seven weeks, or seven years for Nebuchadnezzar. In the same way, we don't know what the seven times is for Satan, although we might conjecture that the seven times represents 7000 years. But of course, that's only speculation. One day we'll find out. But I personally think that the seven times probably is the actual time of 7000 years, at which time even Satan will know who the most high God really is.

Anyway, what we have is the beast nature of earth, which has been established since the sixth day of creation. It has three levels of comprehension, which is enough to bring people into the knowledge of God, his son, Jesus Christ, and the Holy Spirit. If the wicked do not accept Jesus Christ as Lord, then they will remain aligned with the beast nature of earth, and will never come into the light of God, but will be cast into outer darkness forever.

Now, this description of the three levels has been a more extensive description than I expected, but next week I will present to you the actual stages of the 6-6-6, and how the people of earth will find themselves designated as being owned by Satan. You can probably already see the concept of the mark of the beast being 6 for the physical stage of man's eyesight, the 60 being the stage of man's eyesight when he first contemplates spiritual things, but only by using physical contact points. The 600 is that level of man's eyesight when he recognizes the spiritual being, and establishes a familiar relationship with that spiritual being and communicates with it in spirit, without the need for physical images or structures. In God, this would equate to the number seven hundred and seventy seven, in that it would have a seven, plus a 70, plus a 700. It would be the three parts of mankind, body, spirit, and soul, entering into a relationship with God. In Satan, it would be a 6, plus a 60, plus a 600. It would be the three parts of mankind once again of body, spirit, and soul, but entering into a relationship with Satan, based on the sixth day of creation instead of the seventh day rest of God.

This is the essence of the name, mark, or number of Satan as referred to in Revelation 13. A man will receive ownership designation according to the testimony of his three witnesses. The testimony will be given by each man for himself. No other person's testimony will be accepted,

for it is only the man himself who knows himself. Absolutely true testimony of any person can only be determined by looking into the deep inner being of the man himself. And it is the man himself who will give that testimony. But the testimony of man will not be given on judgment day. On judgment day the judgment will be given. The testimony of each man is being given every day, day in and day out, by the witness of his body, his spirit, and his soul. Mankind will either prove that his heart is righteous, or he will prove that his heart is evil. And because the body and spirit will describe his heart, his heart will be known openly. On the day of judgment, every man will be stripped naked of their own covering. There will be nothing hidden unless the person is clothed with the robe of God's righteousness. That will only come through Jesus Christ, and therefore, the beast nature must be rejected, before it is too late.

Part 14

Hello! Thanks for being with us. Welcome back to part 14 of Revelation's synopsis of end time events. This week I would like to continue the explanation of being marked with the number, six hundred and sixty six. This is probably the most difficult portion of Revelation 13 to understand. The mark of the beast has been misinterpreted for ages, but that's no real surprise, for the mark of the beast is a spiritual mark, and the understanding can only come as God reveals it to his people by his Holy Spirit. There are many different doctrines concerning the number six hundred and sixty six. There might even be six hundred and sixty six different ones for all I know, but the basic problem with all of them are that they all make the same mistake of trying to interpret the number in a physical way. There are those who teach that the mark of the beast will be in such forms as computer chips and bar codes and invisible ink and infrared branding and whatever. Years ago there were those who taught that the telephone was the mark of the beast. Yet, in each of these doctrines they reverted back to the physical concepts of earth instead of being able to understand the number of six hundred and sixty six as is revealed by the Holy Spirit.

In the last couple of weeks I have tried to break down the marking of an individual by explaining the three levels in which scripture is layered together, which form the picture as a whole for the earth. Of course, the initial historical record is the plain outward physical words and actions of the people of earth, but, under this physical outward layer is another layer which can be comprehended, which is man's words and actions which apply to the principles of spiritual warfare in the earth. In essence, all the historical records from Adam and Eve down to our present time are both a matter of physical historical record and also the playing out of the spiritual warfare between good and evil. Actually, in addition to these two layers, there is a third layer, which is comprehended as the spiritual relationship with a spirit being. As I've explained in previous messages, a person can enter into a spiritual relationship with God, but a person can also enter into a spiritual relationship with Satan. This is the third layer of which the Bible describes over and over again. However, scripture uses the physical events to explain the real spiritual battle which is going on behind the scenes.

Satan is a spirit, in the same sense as God is a spirit. All beings, other than earth creatures, are, or were, heavenly beings. Flesh and blood is only an attribute of God's creation on earth.

From the outside, it appears that man is just flesh and blood, and he is going through the course of Earth's time as a simple straight forward flesh and blood human being. However, the historical events which took place in the Bible are also symbolic of events which are taking place spiritually. And in this three layered concept, there can be understanding of who and what God is and also what our purpose here on earth is. And let me give you just one example of the layered concept in scripture. Something quite familiar to most people is the Tabernacle in the wilderness that God caused the Children of Israel to make. This Tabernacle was a real physical temple, but it was also a pattern of spiritual things. The central portion of the Tabernacle was a tent structure which was divided into two separate rooms. There were two great pillars which stood at the entrance to the first rooms, and this first room was called the Holy Place in which the priests ministered daily to the Lord. In this room were three things. A table for the showbread, a small altar for incense, and a lampstand. The second room was called the Most Holy Place. In this room was the Ark of the Covenant. It was a box in which was kept the two stone tablets of the Law of Commandments. On this ark was a golden lid called the Mercy Seat, and it was above this Mercy Seat that God had said would be his dwelling among the Children of Israel. Separating these two rooms was a veil, a heavy curtain, which prevented anyone from coming into the presence of God.

This complete Tabernacle was an actual physical structure, but it was also a pattern of God's heavenly habitation. Not only was it a physical temple in which the Children of Israel could worship God, but it was also a symbolic pattern of the ways of God in Spirit. Let me break some of these Tabernacle parts down into their physical and spiritual descriptions. The two pillars which stood on either side of the entrance to the Holy Place are not just two big physical pillars, but they also represent the two spiritual witnesses of God which stand before the Lord of all the earth. These two witnesses are the Word of God, manifested in the earth in the person of Jesus Christ, and the Holy Spirit of God, manifested in the earth by the miracles and signs. The curtain separating the Holy Place from the Most Holy Place was an actual physical curtain, but it was also representing the spiritual curtain of sin which keeps us out of the presence of God. This is why the curtain was torn from the top to the bottom at the exact time that Jesus Christ died on the cross. The death of Jesus brought a spiritual way for us to enter into the presence of God, in spite of our sinfulness. The Ark of the Covenant was an actual physical ark, but it also represented symbolically the mode of escape for God's people from the curse of sin. In this Ark of the Covenant were the two tablets of stone on which were written the Law of Commandments. This was the word of God, in the physical sense, but it also represented God's word which could be written in the fleshly tablets of our hearts. God's word is preserved in the Ark of the Covenant, just as God's plan of salvation for the world was preserved in Noah's ark during the time of the flood. The Ark of the Covenant represents how the word of God is kept from being overwhelmed by the waters of the sea of destruction, which spiritually describe the lies of Satan.

Satan's lies are represented all through scripture by referring to them as waters of perdition, or waters of destruction. Both words mean the same thing. Satan's waters are the contaminated truth, and therefore they are lies. This is why Satan is called the serpent in the bottom of the sea. This is why Leviathan, the great sea monster, is described in the book of Job as being so

ferocious. The word of God has been preserved from the overflowing water of Satan's lies from the time of Earth's creation, and has been demonstrated symbolically in many ways. Besides Noah's ark, there is the ark made of bulrushes that Moses was placed in as a baby. He had been cast into the water, just as Pharaoh, king of Egypt had decreed for Israel's male babies, but he had been saved by the ark. This was an actual physical event, but also one which represented the spiritual warfare, and how God would preserve us and deliver us from the waters of Satan's lies.

And also, as long as I'm on the subject of examples of layering, think of this. Just as Moses was preserved from drowning, and was raised in Pharaoh's house, the Children of Israel were also raised in Pharaoh's house, and prevented from drowning in the Red Sea when Pharaoh pursued them. The wicked drowned in the Red Sea, but the Israelites did not.

There are many types and symbols in scripture. However, the ability to see these things which are beneath the surface only come from the power of God through the Holy Spirit. It is the Spirit of God which gives us understanding. But it is also a spiritual relationship with God which is required, for you cannot receive the Holy Spirit of God without receiving God himself. In this same way, the people of earth who reject God are establishing a spiritual relationship with Satan. They may not think so, and they may think that they are confessing Jesus Christ, but it is more than the confession of the lips that will get you into heaven. The heart of every man will be tried, and when the testimony of the man's outward actions and his spirit are judged, they will show what is truly on the heart of that man. The heart may be deceitful, and the heart may cause the lips to put forth lies, claiming to serve Jesus Christ, but the actual actions of the flesh and blood body and the emotional moving of the man's spirit, will determine the true status of the heart.

The Bible tells us that those who come to Jesus Christ must worship God in both truth and in spirit. It is one thing to claim to believe in God, but another thing entirely to act accordingly with that word of God of which you claim to believe. In addition, your spirit will show what really moves you. I'm sure you have seen many people of claim to be Christians, but only go through the paces of Christianity without exhibiting any real fervor for God. These are Christians in name only, and even though they may go to church, they don't act much like Christians, and they certainly don't have any great feeling of love for him. They are moved by many things in this world, but God is not one of them. These are wicked people. The confession of their mouth is that they believe Jesus Christ is the Son of God. However, this confession is insufficient because they don't really believe the word of God which has been given to us. In order to gain heaven, a person must demonstrate that you really have embraced God's word. To do this you must live it, and also have a fervent desire for it.

And this is where the three levels of the number six hundred and sixty six are understood. The number 6, of six hundred and sixty six, represents the plain physical confession of Jesus Christ as Lord. This confession can be spoken by anyone. However, just as you well know, there are many who will claim to know Jesus Christ when he comes again, but Jesus will answer them, "I do not know you. You are workers of iniquity." It will take two or three witnesses in

order to establish your claim of believing God's word. If two out of three of your witnesses give testimony as to believing God's word, then you will be saved. However, if two out of three of your witnesses give testimony that you really don't love God and his Word, then you will be cast out of the presence of the Lord forever.

Now, let's set up an example here, and look at this method of judging a man in three ways. In our first example we'll assume this is you, and that you truly are a Christian. On judgment day, Jesus Christ will look at your record book and will determine if what your mouth confessed was actually the truth, or if it was a false confession. Your confession of Jesus Christ being your Lord will be one testimony in your favor. Then, the actual things you did will be looked at. Your flesh and blood body will have demonstrated what you truly loved, and of course, because your confession was a true confession, your actions and deeds, your works, in life, would reflect a Christlike life. No, maybe not perfectly, but in the general sense your works would demonstrate your desire to do righteousness instead of wickedness. Therefore, the testimony of your body would be in agreement with the testimony of your mouth. This would already be two witnesses in your favor. But because all three witnesses will be evaluated, your spirit would also be evaluated. Because the testimony of your lips was actually true, your spirit would have been in tune with the Holy Spirit of God. Because the spirit within you found God's word in your heart, it would have moved you to demonstrate a fervent emotion for the things of God.

In essence, what spirit is in you can easily be determined by seeing what you get excited about. It's the same thing as love for a spouse, in that if you really do love someone, you get emotional about them, and not about someone else. How you are stimulated by the things of God as opposed to how you are stimulated by the things of this world, will accurately identify which spirit has found a place in you to reside.

Once this process is complete, your judgment will be final. You will be judged according to the testimony of your lips, your actions, and your spirit. These three parts of you will give a perfectly clear picture of what kind of heart you really have. Those who truly do love God will be designated as belonging to God. They will be marked as Sons of God because they will have truly entered into the rest of God. They will carry the mark or name of God in their foreheads.

Now, on the other hand, let's talk about the judgment of the wicked. And this is where the number six hundred and sixty six really gives us insight. There are two basic ways in which a wicked person can be judged guilty as a final verdict. The first way is quite simple, in that all three testimonies of that person agree. Let's say a person rejects God's word, deciding that he doesn't want to serve God, period. This is simple. In order to arrive at the conclusive evidence of the three witnesses, all you have to do is look at the three testimonies which the man gives. First, his mouth does not confess Jesus Christ. Second, his actions clearly describe someone who rejects righteousness and prefers to live life in his own way according to the stimulation of fleshly desire. Thirdly, his spirit is not moved by the things of God, but is only moved by the things of this world. This clearly demonstrates that the spirit in the man is not

the Holy Spirit of God. This is three witnesses which agree as to the wickedness of that man. The man is cast out of the presence of God forever.

Now, here's a second alternative. Let's say a man claims to be a Christian, but in his heart he is wicked. So in the judgment day, God will look at the testimony of his lips which will claim to confess Jesus Christ as Lord. O.K., so the man says he is a Christian. Of course, the testimony we're looking at here is false, but yet, on the surface it is a confession of making Jesus Christ Lord. So, this first witness must be considered as one testimony to the good. However, there's still two witnesses to go. The next testimony to be looked at is the actions, the works, of the man's life. God will look at the works of the man to see if his works compare with the testimony of his lips. And because we are looking at an example of a man who is wicked, but is only giving a false claim to Christianity, we see that his actions in life do not give a picture of righteousness, but actually demonstrate deeds which are of a sinful nature.

And now we have two witnesses which are in opposition to each other. They have given contrary evidence. The one witness claims to be a Christian, but the actions of the man's body have demonstrated that the man actually prefers the works of unrighteousness instead of the works of God's righteousness. It takes two or three witnesses to settle any life and death matter, and certainly we're talking about a life and death matter when we talk about the judging of the soul. So, in the case of this man, the third witness is called, which is the spirit of that man. Under examination, the record shows that the spirit which always moved the man's actions was an evil spirit, for the man was never moved emotionally for the righteous things of God, but would get excited over things of this world at the drop of a hat. Therefore, the spirit of the man clearly demonstrates that the things the man's heart really liked was the stimulations of the flesh, and not the spiritual things of God.

This is final. What we see is that the third witness of the man, his spirit, has agreed with the second witness of the man, his flesh, and together, they have overruled the testimony of the man's lips. What the true condition of the heart is, is wicked, even though the man testifies that Jesus Christ is his Lord. The testimony of his lips is false. The man will be cast out of the presence of God forever, even though he had one testimony to the good. The two other testimonies have overruled the man's lips. The lips of the man have lied.

Now, if you have comprehended this explanation, then it is just one more step to understanding the difference between being designated as belonging to Satan by either having the mark of Satan in your forehead, or having the mark of Satan in your right hand. It comes down to a very simple concept of a conscious or an unconscious decision. A person who serves the Lord will have consciously made a determination to do so, and the forehead is that place which represents that the mind has made a conscious decision. In the same manner, a wicked person who knowingly rejects God will also be making a conscious decision. His decision will be to reject God, and once again the mark of ownership will be applied to his forehead, for he is mindful of his decision.

But now, a person who claims to accept Jesus Christ as Lord, but who actually has a wicked heart, will also be designated as belonging to Satan. However, this designation of ownership will be put in his right hand instead of in his forehead. And, the reason is this.

In the original language of scripture, the right hand is described as the hand which is the open hand, in that it can grasp and manipulate things. The left hand is cupped, as an animal's paw is only able to be formed into a cup rather than being able to grasp. Therefore, the right hand is the more dexterous hand, and is the hand which exerts authority over the left hand, the paw. The right hand is that hand which usually takes. And this is quite simple when you think about it. When you are offered something or wish to pick up something small, you generally use the hand that is more dexterous. If you are right handed, you take mostly with your right hand, and very little with your left hand. Your right hand is the authority hand, and dominates the taking of things.

Now, let's read a scripture found in Ecclesiastes 10:2. It says, "A wise man's heart is at his right hand; but a fool's heart is at his left." Solomon wrote this in explanation that the heart of a man, which represents his spiritual condition, should be fed much more than the man's fleshly body should be fed. A wise man will provide for his heart with the hand which usually takes, and will provide for his flesh with the hand that doesn't usually take. In this way, the heart of the man will grow strong and healthy, and the flesh side of man will remain secondary to the heart. It is a simple concept of providing nourishment for your spirit man, and at the same time keeping your fleshly man on a diet. Scripture looks at the right hand as a man's hand, as opposed to the hand of a beast. Man's beast nature is at his left, for his left hand is recognized as a paw. His right hand is recognized as a man's hand, for a man has dexterity in his hand.

However, the choice of whether the man will use his human being existence to nourish his spirit, or if he will use his left hand, his paw, to take care of the heart, is up to him. If he usually takes of the things of the world, and seldom takes of the spiritual things of God, his spirit man will grow weak, and his flesh will be exalted in strength. The mark of a man who claims to make Jesus Christ Lord of his life, but demonstrates with his right hand that he would rather use it to take of the things of this world, will earn for that man the designating mark of Satan's ownership in that right hand. The lips of the man may claim righteousness, but the right hand of the man will have shown the true intent of his heart. This man will also be cast out of the presence of God forever. Certainly Solomon has also spoken wisely in Proverbs 4:23, where he said, "Keep your heart with all diligence; for out of it are the issues of life."

Well, that's all for this week. We're out of time again. However, please join us next week, and we'll attempt to enter into chapter 14 of Revelation. Thanks for being with us.

Part 15

Hello! Thanks for being with us. Welcome back to part 15 of Revelation's synopsis of end time events. This is the last part of the 15 part series. This week we will move to the last stage of John's Revelation synopsis, which is the first 13 verses of chapter 14. Once again I

would like to point out that the series I have been presenting for the last several weeks has been the synopsis of John the Revelator. The synopsis includes Revelation, chapters 12 and 13, and also the first 13 verses of chapter 14. And also, I'd like you to realize that when reading Revelation, you can follow the chronological events of this book if you read through chapter 11, verse 19, and then go directly to Revelation 14, verse 14. All the verses in between Revelation 11:19 and Revelation 14:14, represent a synopsis of events which the apostle John gave as an overview and as a warning message to Christians.

Looking back to Revelation 11:15, we see that John states that the seventh trumpet sounds. This is a most important scripture. We know that Paul described this trumpet as the last trump, and that it would be precisely at this time that the resurrection of God's people would take place, and also the time that all of God's children will rise to meet the Lord in the air. This is the second coming of Jesus Christ. Let me read what Paul stated in 1 Corinthians 15:51-52. It says, "Behold, I show you a mystery; We will not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, 52 In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised incorruptible, and we will be changed."

Concerning end time prophecy, there's been a great deal of confusion created concerning the second coming of Jesus Christ. Most of this confusion has been from the pre-tribulation doctrine. But when comparing scripture verses, it is quite clear that the resurrection of the righteous and their rising to meet the Lord in the air occur after the Great Tribulation but before the Day of the Lord's Wrath. In fact, it's difficult to understand Revelation when the pre-tribulation doctrine is followed. However, when the post tribulation doctrine is followed the other scriptures fall into place. The pre-tribulation doctrine arose from a misunderstanding of scripture. The initial doctrine was developed by a minister who misinterpreted a prophetic message because he lacked understanding of the term, Great Tribulation, and the term, Day of the Lord's Wrath. This minister was assuming that the Great Tribulation and the Great and Terrible Day of the Lord, were both the same thing. However, the Great Tribulation and the Great and Terrible Day of the Lord are two separate events and are clearly separated by a third event, which is the darkening of the sun and moon. We can look at two specific Bible verses, and using these two verses we can easily see how the darkening of the sun and moon is an event which creates a division between the Great Tribulation and the Great and Terrible Day of the Lord. Let me read these two verses. The first verse is Matthew 24:29, which describes the sun and moon darkening immediately after the Great Tribulation. It says, "Immediately after the tribulation of those days the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give her light, and the stars will fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens will be shaken."

Now, notice that this verse has stated very clearly that the sun and moon are darkened after the Great Tribulation. Now let's read Joel 2:31. It says, "The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, before the great and the terrible day of the LORD comes." Did you catch what this was saying? The sun and moon are darkened before the great and the terrible day of the LORD comes. With these two verses we see that the Great Tribulation takes place before the sun and moon are darkened, and the Great and Terrible Day of the Lord takes place after the sun and moon are darkened. This clearly demonstrates that it is impossible for the

Great Tribulation to be the same thing as the Great and Terrible Day of the Lord. The two events are separated by the darkening of the sun and moon. To misinterpret the Day of the Lord as the same thing as the Great Tribulation is to bring confusion. However, this is exactly what the minister did, and this is why the pre-tribulation rapture theory was created. But, the chronology of events are actually quite simple. Just as Matthew 24:29 says, the great tribulation occurs first, then the sun and moon are darkened, and then the great and the terrible day of the LORD comes. Seeing from this perspective, it is quite clear that the resurrection of the righteous dead takes place at the second coming of Jesus Christ, and not before this. The great tribulation is not the wrath of God, as is assumed by many, but is actually a trial of our faith. It is the Hour of Temptation, referred to in Revelation 3:10, which tries the souls of men to find out whether they love God and love the things of God, or if they just love the world and the things of the world.

As soon as the Great Tribulation comes to an end, the sun and moon are darkened, and then begins the Great and Terrible Day of the Lord, which will bring the seven trumpet judgments upon earth. Now, if you would like further explanation of this view, you can request a couple of our previous messages which deal significantly with this subject. They are messages #17 and #63. Or, just ask for the messages on the rapture. We'll send them to you. And remember, we don't charge anything. They're free. Anyway, let's go on.

In Revelation 11, verse 15, John speaks of the sounding of the seventh trumpet. At this time there is rejoicing in heaven, and it is stated that the kingdom of this world has become the kingdom of God and of Jesus Christ. There is worship of God, by the 24 elders, and then in verse 18 it is stated that it is time for the wrath of God to be poured out on the wicked. And in the next verse, Revelation 11:19, there is a very significant statement. This verse says, "And the temple of God was opened in heaven, and there was seen in his temple the ark of his testament: and there was lightning, and voices, and thundering, and an earthquake, and great hail." This ark is the heavenly ark of God which contains the word of God. Just as the Ark of the Covenant in Israel's tabernacle contained the Ten Commandments, this heavenly ark of God's covenant with his people contains his word. And, it is his word which is the salvation of his people. The ark is representative of a vessel which floats, and therefore can keep God's children from being overwhelmed with the waters of destruction, which are Satan's lies. Noah's ark was salvation through God's promises to Noah, and the ark of bulrushes was also salvation for Moses, for it kept Moses from being drowned in the Nile river. These two instances were symbolic of God's deliverance from being overwhelmed with the lies of Satan. The ark, whether it was Noah's ark, the ark of bulrushes, the Ark of the Covenant, or the heavenly equivalent, is the salvation of God's people because the arks contain the way of salvation through the promises of God. God's word brings deliverance from the destructive sea of Satan's lies. When the waters of Satan overflow the shores, and attempt to overwhelm the high ground and the solid rock of Jesus Christ, it is always God's promises which give the salvation. It is always God who delivers us from being drowned in Satan's sea of perdition.

From Revelation 11:19, we can now jump over John's synopsis and continue directly with the events which begin with the sounding of the 7th and last trumpet judgment. In Revelation 14,

verses 1-13, we read of the 144,000 first fruits of God. God has not given me any specific understanding of this segment of John's synopsis, so I won't attempt to describe it. There is also a warning once again of doom for all those who are designated with the mark of the beast, and who have worshiped the beast and his image.

Now, the 13th verse of chapter 14 is significant. It is misunderstood by many, but let me explain it. I'll read it first. It says, "And I heard a voice from heaven saying to me, Write, Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from henceforth: Yes, says the Spirit, that they may rest from their labors; and their works follow them." Notice that a statement of blessing is given to all those who die, "in the Lord." Many misinterpret this verse, thinking that it is referring to people who will die in the future after this time. But, the scripture is not referring to those who die from now on, but to those who die in the Lord. They are blessed from this time forward because from this time forward our earthly lives end and our life in heaven begins. We can see this confirmed as we begin to read Revelation 14:14, which describes the actual gathering of the saints. Jesus Christ sits on the clouds of heaven, and in his hand is a sharp sickle. And in verse 16 we read that Jesus thrusts in his sharp sickle and harvests his children, which are the results of the seed of the gospel which he has planted.

Now another harvest is done at this time, which is by an angel who also has a sharp sickle, but this harvest is not of the righteous, but of the wicked, for the fruit of this second harvesting sickle is cast into the great winepress of the wrath of God. The harvest of Revelation 14, verses 14 through 20, takes place at the 7th and last trumpet which is described in Revelation 11:15. By jumping over John's synopsis of events, and going from Revelation 11:19 directly to Revelation 14:14, we can see that this gathering of saints takes place immediately when the 7th trumpet sounds. It is this gathering of God's people at the second coming of Jesus Christ in the clouds of heaven that is the true rapture. There is no pre-tribulation rapture, but there certainly is a rapture of the saints. Rapture just means a catching away, or, to be caught up. The people of Jesus Christ will be raptured, caught up, to be with Jesus Christ when he comes on the clouds of heaven, but it will be after the Great Tribulation, not before. Besides, it's really difficult to escape the Great Tribulation when the Great Tribulation is already taking place, for it is a great affliction on the earth which tries men's souls. This is not a tribulation to try men's flesh and blood bodies, but a tribulation to try men's souls.

Well, this concludes our series on John's synopsis. I hope it has been useful to you. There are many things within these 2 ½ chapters of Revelation that have great significance for Christians, and I hope that in some way I have been able to make it a little more clear. However, if you still have questions, please, and I do mean, please, contact us. You can request this complete 15 part series on John's Revelation synopsis, and there are also other messages which explain some parts of this series in a greater depth or from a somewhat different perspective. We would be glad to send you any of the messages, or answer any questions you may have. Prophecy is a very confusing subject in today's Christian world. If you have a question or questions, please feel free to contact us in some way. And remember, the messages are free. There's no shipping or handling charges, and the messages come in CD form along with the

written transcripts. You can just read the transcripts, or use them to follow along as you listen to the CDs.

And also, I fully realize that the things I've talked about in this series are not easy to comprehend. And it is only by the Holy Spirit of God that any of us can understand at all. But most importantly for Christians is to understand the warning message of Revelation. The image of the beast is with us now, and it is destroying more people in this current day than in all the history of Earth. The mark of the beast is the designation of ownership which is given to the wicked people of earth, and this mark of the beast is current. It is here now. The mark is not a physical mark, but a spiritual mark. The mark is taken by either the conscious or unconscious worshiping of the beast nature of earth, or by worshiping the image of that beast nature.

One of the most important aspects of prophecy which a Christian should understand is that God has created the people of Earth in a flesh and blood form. We have been created, as king Solomon says in Ecclesiastes, "under the sun." We are earthlings who have been created to be flesh and blood creatures until such time as those who come to believe in the word of God are born again. We humans will not always be creatures who live in a physical world under the lights of a physical sun, a physical moon, and physical stars. One day all of the physical things of this universe will be dissolved, and if we are not born again in spirit by this time, we will be cast out of the presence of God forever.

It is only by ceasing to be flesh and blood beings and becoming spirit beings through the born again process of accepting Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior, that we can ever hope to live with Christ eternally. The Bible tells us very plainly that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God. We now walk on this earth under the sun, and the sun is the physical light by which natural man views things. It is the physical knowledge of earth, the physical knowledge of science and technology which natural man views as his light. But in God's kingdom there will be no sun, no moon, and no stars. The light that we will have in heaven is the light that shines out from the throne of God, and there will be no night there.

In this present earth, we have been created to be earth creatures. We have been created to be under the canopy of heaven. And in this present world, God has placed us in a physical existence in order that his all encompassing purpose might be fulfilled until the time that the mystery of God should be finished. The only way that the mystery of God can be understood is through the understanding that comes with the indwelling of God's Holy Spirit. It is by the Holy Spirit that we are guided into knowing the truth that comes down from God out of heaven. Earthly man will not understand, and will always continue to go about his business on Earth in an animalistic state of mind, never comprehending the awesome power of God Almighty. Mankind on earth, without the Holy Spirit of God, will continually be deceived by the lies of Satan. Satan constantly bombards the people of earth with a system of lies by which he attempts to destroy the truth of God's word, and at the same time, attempts to exalt the wisdom and knowledge of natural man. The wisdom and knowledge of natural man encourages man to trust in his own might and power instead of in the power of God.

But it is not by the might and power of earthly man that we will one day be exalted. On this earth, mankind has continually tried to exalt himself by the strength of his own hands. From the very first tower on earth ever built, to this present day of trying to lift ourselves off from the face of this planet, mankind has tried to lift himself up. It is a natural man's attempt to escape from the natural laws of Earth, but it will never happen. One day, and very soon, Jesus Christ will return in the clouds of heaven, and all the attempts of natural man to circumvent the laws of God will fail.

It is God who is all in all. It is God who is spirit and not flesh. And therefore, it is animalistic in nature to trust in the natural things of earth instead of contemplating man's end. Funerals are for the purpose that God might remind mankind of his ultimate destiny. It is at funerals that we think about the end of life and what will come afterward. God wants each person to think about these things, and to contemplate the promises of God which give that final escape from the natural end of beastly man. Man is a beast until he lifts up his eyes unto heaven and becomes aware that God is the only power there is, and that God is the only hope of man's salvation. Until humans come to this point, they remain aligned with the animals, which have no comprehension or expectation of God and his eternal kingdom. It is only by being born again in spirit, by believing in the Word of God, that the people of Earth can ever hope to escape the bondage of this flesh.

We are all born under the sun, but we were never meant to stay in this state of existence. God has better things for us, at least for those who will reject the things of this world and receive the heavenly things of God. We have been told to come out from among the wicked people of this world, and to be a separate people. We have been told to set our affection on things above, and not on the things of this earth. However, even most Christians are deceived into thinking that this earth is just a place for our enjoyment until a better enjoyment comes along. But this earth is not meant to be a joy to us, but a learning place. And if we never learn, and we never come to understanding, then we will never reject the loves of this world and receive the very awesome love of Christ toward us.

It is time that God's people open the eyes that have been covered by the fish scales, and begin to see the light of God instead of only seeing by the physical light of natural man's knowledge. It is time for God's people to open the deaf ears and begin to hear the true word of God. And this must happen soon, for very soon Jesus Christ will return for all those who have been born again in spirit. And all those who have remained in their initial animal beastly state, will be left behind. And there is no second chance. When Jesus Christ appears in the clouds of heaven, it will only be those who walk upright who will rise to meet the Lord in the air. All those who remain as beasts of the earth, and therefore do not walk uprightly, will be doomed. Those who worship the beast nature of Satan, and who worship the image of that beast nature, will be cast into outer darkness forever.

