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Pendleton First AG

Opening: This world we live in is on set and determined path. The bible tells us in clear and explicit terms what the world will look like in the time just before Jesus returns for His Church. If we seek a heart of wisdom concerning key scriptures, we will gain a heart of understanding about our place in human history. God is calling His Church to boldly understand the days we are living so that we will have confidence and not shrink back from proclaiming the faith.

Key Verse:

Revelation 13:13-17 13And the second beast performed great signs to cause even fire from heaven to come down to earth in the presence of the people. 14Because of the signs it was given to perform on behalf of the first beast, it deceived those who dwell on the earth, telling them to **make an image to the beast** that had been wounded by the sword and yet had lived. 15The second beast was permitted **to give breath to the image** of the first beast, so that the image **could speak** and cause all who **refused to worship it to be killed**. 16And the second beast required **all people** small and great, rich and poor, free and slave, to receive a mark on their right hand or on their forehead, 17so that no one could buy or sell unless he had **the mark—the name of the beast or the number of its name**.

1. What has been will be again

- a. King Nebuchadnezzar was a picture of the anti-Christ.**
 - i. Nebuchadnezzar was a prideful man**
 - ii. Was given to madness for 7 years**
 - iii. Made a statue for himself and caused all people to bow down and worship it under threat of death.**
- b. Babylon was an ancient city in what is today the country of Iraq. It was considered the first major superpower. Babylon was known to be a pagan and idolatrous city where sin was very abundant.**

i. The attempted construction of the tower of Babel began in Babylon.

c. Spiritual “Mystery Babylon” is a term the bible uses in the book of revelation to describe a global political and religious system that has existed since the beginning and will control all things in the tribulation period.

i. Revelation 17:4-6 speaks of this mystery Babylon that has killed God’s people throughout history and ultimately receives its power from the beast.

ii. Bible scholars speak of this mystery Babylon as a corrupted religious system that is unified with and ultimately serves the desires of a future world government. This religious system will persecute the saints.

2. Understanding the first and 2nd beast of Revelation

a. The constitution of the final world empire the 1st Beast.

b. Revelation 13:1-4 1Then I saw a beast **with ten horns** and seven heads rising out of the sea. There were ten royal crowns on its horns and **blasphemous names on its heads.** 2The beast I saw was like a leopard, with the feet of a bear and the mouth of a lion. And the dragon gave the beast his power and his throne and great authority. 3One of the heads of the beast appeared to be mortally wounded. But the mortal wound was healed, and the whole world marveled and followed the beast. 4They worshiped the dragon who had given authority to the beast, and they worshiped the beast, saying, “Who is like the beast, and who can wage war against it?”

i. This first beast is a global world alignment of nations that will occur at the time of the last days. It will be a combination of regions historically known through history by a leopard (Grecian empire), bear (Media/Persian Empire) and a lion (Babylonian empire).

ii. The first beast will ultimately encompass the entire world under one government that will control all things.

- iii. The dragon will give this global alignment of nations its power. It is interesting to notice that only one nation on earth has for its national symbol a dragon.
 - iv. Biblically speaking Satan is referred to as a dragon, so ultimately the one that empowers this last day's world government that encompasses the world is Satan himself, although Satan may empower a powerful nation to form a global government similar to how the United States formed the United Nations after World War II.
- c. **The prophet Daniel saw the final empire before anyone else by God's prophetic insight.**
- d. **Daniel 2:31-43 Nebuchadnezzar sees the vision of a statue and Daniel also sees the vision by God's power so that He can interpret it.**
- i. To summarize, Danielle sees a statue that is separated and formed with different mediums. The head is Gold, the chest and arms are silver, the waste is bronze, the legs are iron, the feet are clay mixed with iron.
 1. Gold is Babylonian Kingdom
 2. Silver is the Media/Persian Empire
 3. Bronze is the Grecian Empire
 4. Iron is the Roman Empire
 5. Clay mixed with Iron is the Revived Roman empire and global government of the tribulation period. In this dream it is typified by 10 toes.
 - ii. **Daniel 7:3-7 (emphasis) 3Then four great beasts came up out of the sea, each one different from the others: . . . 4The first beast was like a lion, and it had the wings of an eagle. . . . Suddenly another beast appeared, which looked like a bear. It was raised up on one of its sides, and it had three ribs in its mouth . . . Next, as I watched, another beast appeared. It was like a leopard, and on its back it had four wings like those of a bird. . . a fourth beast appeared, and it was terrifying—dreadful and extremely strong—with large iron teeth. It devoured and crushed; then it trampled underfoot**

whatever was left. It was different from all the beasts before it, **and it had ten horns.**

e. The First Beast is led by a real person the Bible calls the Anti-Christ.

f. The 2nd Beast is a global religious system with two horns

i. **Revelation 13:1-2 11**Then I saw another beast rising out of the earth. This beast **had two horns like a lamb** but spoke like a dragon. **12**And this beast exercised **all the authority of the first beast** and caused the earth and those who dwell in it to worship the first beast, whose mortal wound had been healed.

g. The 2nd beast looks like a lamb meaning it is in part an apostate form of Christianity. It has 2 horns on it's head meaning it is the combination of two kingdoms. Some have stated that this apostate form of Christianity will unite with all other global religions or at a minimum Islam which is truly a religion that perverted and distorted Christianity replacing Jesus with Mohammed who is known as the blessed prophet.

i. **The lamb beast speaks with the mouth of a dragon meaning that it is evil in nature. It looks righteous but it is ultimately evil and only exists to control people.**

h. **The 2nd Beast religious system is led by a real religious figure known as the False Prophet.**

i. The 2nd Beast causes all people to worship the beast or to be killed, this is the same picture as Shadrach Meschek and Abendego in the fiery furnace who refused to bow down to Nebuchadnezzar's golden statue.

3. The Change that is coming

a. The world is rapidly changing, **global GDP to debt ratios are out of control** due to world governments spending and printing money recklessly. At some point the global Ponzi scheme will come crashing down.

b. **A new world order is rising where the dollar will no longer be the world's reserve currency.**

- i. This is already playing out in regard to the BRICS nations who combined control 3.64 billion people on planet earth.
 - ii. This realignment of nations will not be smooth, and wars will be fought, nations will rise and nations will fall.
- c. **Technology is already here and is now being implemented to attempt to aid humanity, which is in decline.**
 - i. Artificial Intelligence is growing at a rapid pace and is undermining the worker. In the near future many manufacturing jobs will be replaced with Artificial Intelligence and Robot's.
- d. **Israel will be isolated in the Middle East** with only God to save her from the coming war of Gog and Magog according to Ezekiel 38-39. This coming war will set the world up for the revealing of the anti-Christ during the tribulation and the rapture of the Church to be with Jesus.
- e. **A Universal Basic income** will be deployed due to rising population ages, and people being unemployed due to technology replacing workers. Most of the world has a declining birth rate. This will be by design and in part will lead to a one world financial system.
- f. **Digital Money is being developed** and deployed and humanity will have a digital currency attached to a smart wallet. For the meantime there will still be a
- g. The world we have known will fade, with its relative morality and stability since post World War II. It is going to collapse; out of these ashes a new and final global government will form. This new global government will not necessarily be enacted due to a world war but could be agreed upon as a solution to global manmade problems like climate change, debt, fear of a pandemic, artificial intelligence takeover.
- h. New Alliances among nations will form, the world will align into goat and sheep nations. Nations that will honor God and nations that will not honor God.
- i. Why? All Nations will deny the true image/nature of God and will hate the Christian and Israel.
- j. A decline in faithful adherence to biblical Christianity will continue, this will allow for apostasy to continue, people will still be religious,

but they will not follow the bible. They will still go to church, but they will not live the precepts of scripture.

4. **FINALLY:** The greatest outpouring of the Holy Spirit that the world is in desperate need of will occur, and the final harvest before the tribulation period begins will occur. The young and old in Christ will be empowered by this sovereign and supernatural work of the Holy Spirit, it will be a quick and powerful work, like a mighty summer rain that springs up quickly and dumps a tremendous amount of rain before it finishes suddenly.