

Let's Talk

Revelation is filled with signs and symbols, warnings, and promises. Why do you think the message has been shared with us in this way? What helps you to dig in and keep pursuing the truths of this book despite its complexity?

Let's Study

- **1. Read Revelation 12:3 and Revelation 13:2-6.** The sermon refers to the dragon, the beast from the sea, and the beast from the earth as a "false trinity".
 - Based on the sermon from Revelation 13, what contrasts and similarities are there between the Holy Trinity–God the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit–and the false trinity?
- 2. Read Revelation 13:7; Daniel 4:17; John 19:10-11.
 - What do you think about the assertion that it is God's permissive will that unleashes all these actions?
 - How do you feel/and or reconcile God's Sovereignty with God's Love?
- 3. Read Revelation 13:8-14 and Matthew 24:4-5.
 - Why do you think the beast from the earth has so many 'religious' overtones (like signs and miracles)?
 - · How does spiritual conflict in doctrine and experience factor into this passage in Revelation?
- 4. Read Revelation 13:8-14 and Matthew 24:4-5.
 - Pastor Jon said the mark of the beast was not literal, that we are already sealed by the Holy Spirit and therefore marked. What did he say the mark of the beast is? Do you agree with this? Why or why not?
- 5. Read 2 Thessalonians 2:3-4,9.
 - What strong caution is given to us as the church in this passage?



Let's Apply

All of this information and teaching can feel overwhelming, even frightening; yet Revelation 13:10b specifically encourages believers to do two things. Read this verse together and discuss how we can encourage one another to fulfill these instructions.

Pastor Jon quoted Darrell Johnson as saying that the book of Revelation "is not a crystal ball, it is a discipleship manual." In what ways has the book of Revelation become a discipleship manual to you? If you struggle to see it that way, what would have to change in your heart to make it so?

Let's Pray

Father God, we thank You for the gift of Your Holy Spirit, which guides us through uncertain times and gives us confidence that You are with us always.

Teach us to see that we need not fear the unknown or worry about the future before us; rather, that we are called to study Your Word and trust in Your Sovereignty.

Help us not to be deceived by the enemy, falsehoods, or harmful systems or practices and to cling to the Truth instead. May all be fulfilled as You have said.

Thank you for the sure knowledge that, in the end, Jesus is the Victor.

In Your Holy Name we pray, Amen.

Questions? Email sermonquestions@sanctuschurch.com

