

Introduction

In the first part of this chapter we met the Antichrist, the first beast of Revelation 13. In the second part we are introduced to the second beast, or the False Prophet. Following the Rapture everything will be centralized. Today that is already beginning, we have the ability to make financial transactions without cash, everyone has some type of identification number, and the technology to mark everyone is available. The only area that is not completely centralized is religion. The Rapture will pave the way for one world religion, and this coming False Prophet will promote the god of this religion, the Antichrist.

I. The Description of the False Prophet. Rev. 13:11-13

This is the man who will lead the false religion of the Antichrist. It has been said that when he comes on the scene that the "unholy trinity" will be complete. His major function will be to lead and deceive the world as they worship the Beast.

A. Called the False Prophet. (Rev. 19:20)

This man looks like the dragon, but comes across as a lamb. He will be controlled by Satan, and he will make it his business to deceive the world. Jesus gives warnings concerning false prophets in Mt. 7: 15, this man will be the ultimate false prophet. The current ecumenical movement is laying the ground work for the False Prophet.

B. His Religious nature

The Antichrist will primarily lead in the area of politics, and the False Prophet will take the lead in religion. During the Tribulation, religion will be a major tool of Satan. Any religion will work, as long as it is not the one that holds to the Bible.

II. The Deception of the False Prophet. Rev. 13:14-18

This man will cause the people to build and worship an image of the Antichrist. The image will ultimately be set up in the temple. This will probably be an idol made of some impressive material. The idol will be a uniting factor for the people of the world.

A. The occult

The False Prophet will be able to perform "miracles." He will deceive many by doing his signs and wonders, Rev. 13: 13, 2Th. 2: 9. All of these "signs" will be accomplished through the power of Satan.

B. The Mark

The False Prophet will cause all men to take the mark of the Beast. When this goes into effect individuals must take the mark in order to buy and sell. Those who refuse to take the mark will be put to death. The number of the mark is 666. Scholars do not know exactly what this means. We know that the number 6 is the number of man. With three sixes together, this is something that is totally of man. It leaves the true God out.