**Sermon Notes October 30, 2022**

**Series**: Revelation

**Sermon**: The Beast, The Man, The Religion

**Scripture**: Revelation 13:1-8, 12, Daniel 7:8, Matthew 24:30-31, John 15:13

**Summary**: Revelation is always a book of hope. We are reminded to rejoice in the fact that God protects us daily from the attacks of Satan. We need to live in the victory that comes through our relationship with Jesus. Unlike God, who is perfect and true, the Beast is false. One of the overarching theme of the book of Revelation is allegiance, where does your loyalty lie? Who will you worship when faced with persecution or even death?

**Read**: Revelation 13:1-8

In chapter 13 we’ll examine the beast, the anti-Christ, the false prophet, and of course the relevance of the number 666. The importance of this message is vital to our survivability as Christians. It is Gods desire for us to understand His word. They are explanation of the clear and present danger that we face as Christians, and without gaining this knowledge, we are living in a world of denial. Understanding the purpose of Satan is mandatory comprehension to any Christian?

1. **The Beast**
   1. Revelation 13:1-2
      1. Satan has appeared on earth and desires to destroy the woman (Israel).
      2. Both Revelation and Daniel describe the last human government before the second coming of Christ.
         1. Daniel 2, 7 and 9
      3. The sea mentioned in both books is symbolic of the “Sea of Humanity.”
      4. The 10 crowns represent the 10 kingdoms which become part of the Antichrists kingdom.
         1. There will be nowhere to hide from Satan and his minions.
      5. Satan shows even greater defiance by blaspheming God
   2. The kingdom of the Antichrist will be a world kingdom controlled by Satan.
      1. All things said, done and sold will be controlled by Satan.
2. **The Man**
   1. Revelation 13:3
      1. The Antichrist
   2. John and Daniel both focus on the Beasts appearance.
      1. Daniel 7:8
   3. Somehow the Beast becomes mortally wounded.
      1. He is able to resurrect himself. Revelation 13:12
      2. Satan’s desire to be god is realized in how the world seems him after his resurrection.
      3. Satan’s pride is his undoing.
3. **The Religion of the Beast.**
   1. Revelation 13:4-8
      1. During this time frame you have two options.
         1. Serve Satan
         2. Or Die
      2. The devil influences everything around us today.
   2. Our job today is the work of hindering Satan’s influence in the world.
   3. This is the struggle, ministry and authority of the church.
   4. During this time Saint increases his search for those who have fled into the wilderness for 1260 days.
      1. Matthew 24:30-31

**Application / Next Steps**

Will you be hiding or in heaven when Jesus returns?

Where will you be when God finds you?

Will you be right here in church on Sunday?

The glorious coming in the clouds is that of Jesus’ return to battle against the Antichrist… but before that time can come… we must strive and continue to work for the Lord. So many today are fooled by thinking what they are doing is enough… or thinking that they’ve done their work and there is nothing more to do.

If you’re in that camp… let me, tell it straight… you’re lying to yourself. Commitment to follow Jesus is not an option… it’s a commandment.

Jesus said in…

**John 15:13 (ESV),**

**Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends.**

Today you are, or you can be, a friend of God. Jesus laid down his life for his friends – for US – and the least we can do is live for Him.

Jesus was committed all the way… how about you?

I have been deep into study of this book for a couple years and am convinced that God’s cry to the church is to get up, dust off the proverbial cobwebs, and get to work. God has a work for us to do today… the question is, will you work for the Lord? I believe that our answer today, directly affects our eternity.