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Revelation 13:11-18 Revelation 14:1-5

The book of Revelation is really about the Jewish people. It completes the Jewish revelation in God's program. The first part of ch13 we saw a beast, a wild crazy animal. This beast stands on the Mediterranean Sea, a political empire that rises from the Mediterranean area. We also get the antichrist, an individual, from the same area. Ch 13 goes back and forth with the word beast, from the empire to the individual. There will be 10 major power players from the old Roman Empire, morphed into a new modern-day form. 3 will fall, 7 will remain.

THE BEAST AND THE EARTH

Vs11: another beast came out of the Earth – from mankind, like an office or position that's already there. He assumes the position, power given by men. A world-king position is created. Has 2 horns like a lamb, the image of a lamb, in presented to the people, he's shown as a good guy. He looks nice, but he speaks like a dragon. He presents himself as good, sweet, nice, kind, but he's Satan. Horns = power in scripture, so 2 sources of power is represented here. Political system= head, religious system = a head. But behind it all is Satan.

Vs12: It appears that the antichrist, the individual, suffered some kind of assassination attempt and the world thought he was dead, but he came back to life.

Vs13: Remember Satan is an imitator. He imitates everything God does. Satan transforms himself into an angel of light, as does his army of angels. This is why lots of things that look good turn out bad and rotten and corrupt. Since Satan transformed people to look good, but they are rotten to the core, we can see the true driving force behind people by their works. Don't discount Satan or give him too much power. Give Satan his due, recognize what he does, but stay on your guard and be aware. He knows the bible better than any other living being on earth, and he will be very angry at the end of times. God always lets man show his true colors.

Vs14: Satan makes an image to be worshipped. Since he came back to life, lots of people will be fooled and actually do it. Hollywood movies fools lots of people today – think of what this will do to gullible people.

Vs15: He makes the statue speak. If people do not worship it, they will be killed on the spot. It will be a worldwide religious and political system, a world unity. They will walk people up to the image, it will speak, if they don't worship the statue, they will be killed.

Vs16: Everyone will get a mark in their right hand or forehead: rich or poor, small or great, it doesn't matter who they are. In the end times, all who worship the beast will get this mark of the beast "tattooed" on their right hand or forehead.

Vs17: The work 'mark' means in Greek: a scratch, etching, or badge of servitude. No man can buy or sell unless they have this mark (remember a political system is controlling the financial system of the world now), can't go shopping or have a job unless you have the **mark, name, or number** of the beast tattooed on your right

hand or forehead. It's not just the number of the beast, 666. The Greek alphabet has numbers assigned to letters.

Vs18: The antichrist's name will add up to 666. Christians won't know who this is, since we will all be taken up to heaven before the tribulation begins. The church will be raptured from the face of the Earth. The letter 'a' is not in the Greek text. When you see the word 'a' in our biblical translation, throw it out. Therefore, 'it is the number of man', not 'a' man. Man's number is 6. 666 = man, man, man. Political, financial, religious. Man's 6 always comes short of God's perfection of 7.

Goliath: he was a man who represented Satan. He stood before God's people and blasphemed God and his people. Goliath was 6 cubits high, 6 shields, 6 something....the point is, 666. Hmmm....Goliath was man without God. Man was created on day 6 in Genesis. There are many examples of the number 6 in the bible that refers to man's incompleteness without God referenced. Listen to Carl in the audio this week to catch it. The antichrist is man's final perfection in man's rebellion towards God. There's a book called Biblical Mathematics that's very interesting.

Chapter 14

We're transitioning from a scene on the earth in the middle of the tribulation period to a scene in heaven now.

Vs1: John sees a Lamb with the 144,000 on Mt. Zion with His name and His Father's name written in their foreheads.

Vs2: The voice was like thunder. Harps were playing galore. The harp is unique instrument that stimulates the human immune system. No other instrument does this. It's the most mentioned instrument mentioned in heaven in the bible.

Vs3: The beasts mentioned here are creatures, not bad. Only the 144,000 can learn this fabulous song who were redeemed from the earth.

Vs4: Virgins... never been with a woman, never married. There's nothing wrong with woman. This just means the 144,000 are virgins, not the common man. God gave woman to man for companionship. But don't commit fornication. Don't pollute yourself with the world's wickedness. The 144,000 are not Jehovah Witnesses. The 144,000 kept themselves separate from the world. These were the firstborn of God.

Vs5: Their objective is to follow Christ, period. They don't speak evil, they are very focused on following Christ, as we should be.

