**SERMON OUTLINE**

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| **SERMON TITLE:** | The Nature of the Beast |
| **SERMON REFERENCE:** | Revelation 13:1-18 |
| **LWF SERMON NUMBER:** | #1992 |
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1. INTRODUCTION
   1. We cannot afford to be ignorant of Bible prophecy in these days is which we are living.
   2. The stage is set for the end of times.
   3. We are on the threshold of the consummation of the age.
   4. The Bible teaches that there is coming a human being who will be the devil in human flesh.
      1. The Bible calls him the beast, the son of perdition, the man of sin, the wicked one, and the antichrist.
   5. In today’s message, we want to do what God’s Word teaches us to do and that is to unveil the beast, to disclose him, and to reveal him.
2. the sudden appearance of the beast
   1. Revelation 13:1
   2. This beast will appear suddenly, emerging out of the sea.
      1. The Bible teaches that the sea stands for the nations of the world.
         1. Revelation 17:15
            1. The whore refers to the false church.
         2. The beast will come out of multitudes of people, nations, and languages.
      2. He will also come at a time when the nations are in turmoil.
         1. He may be alive today, if the Rapture is near.
   3. Due to the amount of trouble in the world, people will be eager to deify the antichrist.
3. the satanic ancestry of the beast
   1. Revelation 13:1
      1. This passage of Scripture gives a description of the devil and is also describing the beast.
   2. Revelation 12:3
      1. The dragon is the devil.
         1. Revelation 12:9
   3. He has the devil for his father.
      1. When Jesus Christ was on Earth, He stated that whoever had seen Him had also seen His Father.
         1. John 14:9
      2. The beast will also be able to say that whoever sees him has seen his father.
         1. He is going to be the visible expression of the invisible devil.
   4. His family is the kingdoms of the Earth.
      1. Revelation 13:2
         1. The lion, leopard, and bear in this passage represent kingdoms, nations, and world empires.
         2. Daniel 7
            1. The beast will be a composite of these nations.

The ungodly rulers of Babylon had their regal bearing like a lion.

Those of Medo-Persia were strong like the greedy grasp of a bear.

The leopard represents Greece with its rapidity of conquest under Alexander the Great.

* + - * 1. This final world ruler will be all of the Napoleons, the Hitlers, the Alexanders the Great, the Stalins, etc., all rolled into one.
      1. The people have rejected the Lamb, but they will receive the beast.
         1. John 5:43
         2. They will receive the spotted leopard rather than the spotless Lamb.
         3. They will receive the grasp of the bear rather than the grace of the Lamb.
    1. The world will deify this new ruler who is to come.
  1. His family fortune is the power and authority over the Earth.
     1. Revelation 13:2
        1. “His seat” in this verse means “his throne.”
     2. God gave power and authority to Adam, who turned it over to Satan.
        1. Satan retains that power and that authority.
        2. The devil tried to tempt Jesus in the wilderness.
           1. Luke 4:6-8

Satan told Jesus he would give Him his power and authority over the Earth if Jesus would bow down and worship him.

* + 1. Satan will turn over this power and authority to the beast, and the beast will temporarily receive the kingdoms of this world.
       1. 2 Thessalonians 2:9
    2. Satan cannot use this full authority today because the Holy Spirit is restraining him.
       1. At the Rapture, the Holy Spirit, who resides in each believer, will be taken out when the church is taken from the Earth.
       2. When the salt and light are removed from the world, the restraint will be taken away, and then that power and authority invested by the devil in this one man, the beast, will be released.
    3. With no restraining force, the beast will dominate the world.

1. the seductive appeal of the beast
   1. Revelation 13:3-4
      1. In verse 3, “*all the world wondered after the beast*” means that “they all admired him.”
   2. The world will follow the beast.
      1. He will be an appealing man in the eyes of the world.
      2. The term “beast” does not refer to his appearance but speaks to his nature.
         1. 2 Corinthians 11:14
      3. The beast will be handsome, charming, clever, greatly intelligent, a persuasive speaker and a global charmer.
   3. One of the reasons that the entire world will wonder after him is that he will have a deadly wound in his head, and that wound will be healed.
      1. Revelation 13:3
      2. This will be Satan’s counterfeit resurrection, which will actually be a resuscitation.
         1. The devil does not have power to give life.
      3. The beast will appear to be dead and will be brought back to life.
         1. At that time the world will greatly admire him.
         2. He will be Satan incarnate.
   4. He will appear to be the greatest advocate for peace the world has ever known, and the people will worship the beast.
2. the sinister ambitions of the beast
   1. To deify Satan.
      1. Revelation 13:4
      2. Satan has always wanted to be worshipped.
         1. This is the reason, as we get to these last days, we see so much devil worship.
         2. Isaiah 14:14
         3. Satan wants to be like God.
      3. Satan will receive worship through the beast just as Almighty God receives worship through the Lord Jesus Christ.
         1. The devil will receive worship through the false christ, the antichrist.
   2. To defy the Savior.
      1. Revelation 13:5-6
      2. He cannot touch God in Heaven nor the saints who have already gone to Heaven, so the beast is reduced to name-calling.
      3. The beast will blaspheme the one true God and will turn people away from belief in the Lord Jesus Christ.
         1. Matthew 24:24
      4. The beast will be intelligent and very persuasive.
   3. To destroy the saints.
      1. Revelation 13:7
      2. There will be people who will be saved during the Great Tribulation.
         1. They are the tribulation saints.
      3. The beast will turn against them and destroy them.
      4. The beast will want to destroy the people of God.
         1. If he could get to those in Heaven, then he would; but he cannot.
   4. To dominate society.
      1. Revelation 13:7
      2. The beast will have global control.
      3. He will terrify some and entice others, but the whole world will be intimidated or bribed into following the beast.
   5. To delude the sinners.
      1. Revelation 13:8-10
      2. The Bible says that the people of Earth will believe Satan and will worship him.
         1. The devil does not want casualties; he wants converts.
      3. He will persuade those who are alive during the Great Tribulation into believing a lie.
      4. 2 Thessalonians 2:4
      5. 2 Thessalonians 2:11
      6. They will follow the devil’s messiah.
3. the supporting agent of the beast
   1. This beast will have an agent who will go before him.
      1. Revelation 13:11
   2. This agent will be a sinister minister of propaganda.
      1. He will look like a lamb, but he will speak like a dragon.
      2. Revelation 13:12
         1. The second beast has all the authority of the first beast.
   3. Satan has always wanted to be like God.
      1. God is a triune God.
         1. God the Father
         2. God the Holy Spirit
         3. God the Son
      2. Satan will have his unholy trinity.
         1. Satan is the anti-God; the dragon.
         2. The anti-Christ is the beast.
         3. The anti-Spirit is the false prophet.
            1. The purpose of the false prophet is to cause people to worship the beast in order to give honor to the dragon.

Just as the Holy Spirit causes us to worship the Lord Jesus Christ and to give honor to Almighty God.

* 1. This false prophet will cause people to worship the beast and control the masses in three primary ways:
     1. Revelation 13:13-18
     2. The fire.
        1. Revelation 13:13
        2. He will somehow set the heavens ablaze in some dazzling display.
        3. This will give authenticity to the global control and power of the beast.
     3. The image.
        1. Revelation 13:14-15
        2. This will be a replica of the beast which can speak and cause people to listen.
     4. The mark.
        1. Revelation 13:16-17
        2. People living during the Great Tribulation must have the mark of the beast in order to buy and to sell, to have food and to subsist and live.
        3. If you have not been sealed by the Spirit, then you will be branded by the beast.
        4. There will be a cashless society.
           1. In order to do any transaction, a person would have to show his mark.
        5. The mark is 666.
           1. 6 is the number of a man.

Man was created on the sixth day.

Genesis 1:26-31

* + - * 1. 7 is the number of perfection.

Man is not perfect.

* + - * 1. This is man’s attempt to make himself as God.
        2. No matter the size of the transaction; no seal, no sale. No mark, no merchandise.
        3. The devil wants global control and will systematize the entire world.

The needed technology already exists: the microchip and the computer.

* + - * 1. “The more machines act like men, the more men will act like machines.”
        2. If each letter of the alphabet were assigned a number in increments of 6:

C =18

O = 90

M = 78

P = 96

U = 126

T = 120

E = 30

R = 108

COMPUTER = 666

* + - 1. The devil is going to be able to control the entire world.
      2. The entire world will become a vast concentration camp with all of its inmates numbered.
      3. John 10:3
         1. The Lord Jesus Christ knows all of His followers by name.
         2. The antichrist will not give his followers a name but a number.

When the end time comes, will your name be called or will your number be up?

1. CONCLUSION
   1. If the purpose of the beast is to deify Satan, we need to keep our children away from things that glorify Satan.
   2. If the purpose of the beast is to defy the Savior, we need to be offering up to Jesus massive praise.
   3. If the purpose of the beast is to destroy saints, we need to teach our children to protect themselves with the knowledge and truth of God’s Word.
   4. If the purpose of the beast is to dominate society, we need to stand against the ever-increasing intrusion of government that strives to regiment us into groups to control.
   5. There is a devilish, dark power that is coming on the world and God’s children cannot afford to be ignorant.
   6. Before the beast appears, the church will be taken out.
   7. The Bible teaches that the spirit of antichrist is already in the world.
      1. 1 John 4:3
   8. Today is the day of salvation.
   9. Do you know Jesus personally? If not, you can pray to Him today by asking Him to come into your life.
   10. Call upon Jesus today. Repent (turn) from your sins, and turn to Jesus. Ask Him to forgive you of your sins, and acknowledge Him as Lord of your life.
       1. Romans 3:23
       2. Romans 10:9-10
       3. Romans 10:13
       4. Acts 16:31
       5. John 3:16