

The Satanic Trinity

Lesson #37 The Coming Antichrist

Oct. 14, 2020

Prophetic Scripture reveals there are 3 other comings of individuals in addition to the Second Coming of Jesus Christ: The coming of Satan, Antichrist and the False Prophet.

The Unholy Or Satanic Trinity In The End Times

Common tactic of Satan: Imitate or counterfeit the things of God to make himself appear to be like God. Anti = in place of; instead of; against

The Holy Trinity consists of God the Father, God the Son Jesus Christ, and God the Holy Spirit.

The Satanic Trinity

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|----------------------|-------------|--|
| 1. The Dragon, Satan | Anti-GOD | I will be like the Most High |
| 2. The Beast [Sea] | Anti-CHRIST | Son of Perdition Demands Worship |
| 3. The False Prophet | Anti-SPIRIT | Persuade people to worship anti-CHRIST |

Holy Trinity is characterized by: infinite truth, love and goodness.

Unholy trinity is characterized by: deception, hatred and unadulterated evil.

- This unholy trinity will unite in a desperate attempt to overthrow God.

I. Satan God The Father I Will Be Like The Most High

Rev. 12:3 describes Satan as "a great red dragon, having 7 heads and 10 horns, and 7 crowns upon his head."

- Red indicates his vicious and homicidal personality.
- 7 heads symbolize 7 evil kingdoms that Satan has empowered and used throughout history to prevent God's ultimate plan from coming to fruition.
- 5 of the kingdoms have come and gone: Egypt, Assyria, Babylon Medo-Perisa, Greece
- All these kingdoms severely oppressed, persecuted and killed many Jews.
- Rev. 12:4 = Satan's intent was to prevent the birth of Christ.
- Kingdom #6 - Rome - was present in John's day when writing this prophecy.
 - Under Roman rule, King Herod murdered Jewish male babies around the time of Christ's birth.
 - Pontius Pilate ultimately authorized the crucifixion of Jesus.
- Kingdom #7 will be during the first 3 ½ years - headed by 10 nation confederation
The antichrist presents as the peacemaker and signs the 7 year covenant.
- At the midpoint of the Tribulation Period, the antichrist will become a dictator energized by Satan who has been cast out of heaven to earth. [Rev. 12:9]

Rev. 17:11 And the beast that was, and is not, even he is the eighth, and is of the seven, and goeth into perdition. [Last 3 ½ years is actually Kingdom #8]

- The kingdom of the last 3 ½ years will be fiercer and more oppressive than the others, This kingdom will be rooted in all the previous empires and unite in one their evil and power. Added to the ferocity of these beasts will be Satan's own power, throne and authority!

➤ These kingdoms were also prophesied in Dan. 2 & 7.

| Dan. 2 | Dan. 7 | Power | |
|---|---|---------------------------------------|---------|
| Head of Gold | Lion with eagle's wings | Babylon | Head #3 |
| Chest/arms of Silver | Bear with 3 ribs | Medo-Persia | Head #4 |
| Belly/thigh of bronze | Leopard with 4 heads | Greece | Head #5 |
| Legs of Iron | Beast with iron teeth | Rome | Head #6 |
| Feet of Iron & Clay | 10 Horns of the Beast | 10 Kings | Head #7 |
| | Little Horn | Identity to Come | #8 |
| Stone breaking Statue Becomes a Mountain | Destruction of Nations Reign of God's Saints | Kingdom of God Established Forever | |

3rd Parenthetical Passage: Chapters 12-14

3rd parenthesis: Comes between the 7th trumpet and the bowl judgments, reveals 7 personages:

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|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------|
| 1. The Sun Clothed Woman | Israel | Revelation 12:1-2 |
| 2. The Great Red Dragon | Satan | Revelation 12:3-4 |
| 3. The Man Child | Jesus Christ | Revelation 12:5-6 |
| 4. The Archangel | Michael | Revelation 12:7-12 |
| 5. The Jewish Remnant | Remnant Seed Of Woman | Revelation 12:13-17 |
| 6. The Beast out of the Sea | Antichrist; World Dictator | Revelation 13:1-10 |
| 7. The Beast out of the earth | False Prophet; Religious Leader | Revelation 13:11-18 |

II. Person #2 of the Unholy Trinity = Beast or Antichrist = False Jesus or Messiah
Rev. 13:1-10 This is the most graphic, the most thorough, the most penetrating, the most unforgettable, the most dramatic presentation of the antichrist anywhere in Scripture, but it is not the first.

John, writing in his first epistle: I John 2:18 "Just as you have heard that antichrist is coming." Before the writing of the book of Revelation, they knew antichrist was coming.

Where and how had they heard about antichrist? It was common teaching.

II Thess. 2:5 "Do you not remember that while I was still with you, I was telling you these things?"

Where was the source of this Biblical data that Paul and John were using to teach about antichrist? The Prophet Daniel

Dan. 7: 8 I considered the horns, and, behold, there came up among them [10 horns] another little horn, before whom there were three of the first horns plucked up by the roots: and, behold, in this horn were eyes like the eyes of man, and a mouth speaking great things.

Dan. 7:21-22 I beheld, and the same horn made war with the saints, and prevailed against them; [how long?] Until the Ancient of days [God] came, and judgment was given to the saints of the most High; and the time came that the saints possessed the kingdom.

The Antichrist, an intellectual genius and powerful orator who grows out of a confederacy of nations, takes over complete authority, wages war with the saints and overcomes them until God steps in and gives the saints the Kingdom.

Dan. 7:23 "Thus he said the fourth beast will be a fourth kingdom on the earth which will be different from all the other kingdoms, and it will devour the whole earth and tread it down and crush it." It has devastating and devouring effect on the world.

Dan. 7:25 The little horn or antichrist:

He will speak out against the Most High and wear down the saints of the highest one.

Through injustice, seizure, punishment and death, he will massacre those who belong to God.

He will intend to make alterations in times and in law. He wants to write his own morality.

They will be given into his hand for 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ years.

Further prophecy about this coming world ruler who wreaks havoc among the saints and the world until the return of Jesus Christ to set up His Kingdom.

Dan. 8:23 And in the latter time of their kingdom, when the transgressors are come to the full, a king of fierce countenance, and understanding dark sentences, shall stand up.

Intimidator and skilled in intrigue; master deceiver

How The Antichrist Will Come In:

Dan. 8:24a And his power shall be mighty, but not by his own power:

Rev. 13:2b the dragon gave him his power, and his seat [throne], and great authority.

Dan. 8:24b He will destroy to an extraordinary degree, and shall prosper, and practice, and shall destroy the mighty and the holy people.

Matt. 24:21 For then [context: abomination of desolation; last 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ yrs.] shall be great tribulation, such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever shall be.

Dan. 8:25 Through his shrewdness or his cunning, he will cause deceit to succeed by his influence. He will magnify himself in his heart. He will destroy many while they are at ease.

[Recall: Rev. 6> He first comes, riding on a white horse, and offers peace. 7 yr. covenant]

II Thess. 2:9-12 His coming is in accord with the activity of Satan.

- He will be given the power to do signs and wonders with all the deception of wickedness for those who perish because they didn't receive the love of the truth so as to be saved.
- God will send upon them a deluding influence so they might believe what is false in order that they all may be judged who did not believe the truth but took pleasure in unrighteousness.

Dan. 9:26 and the people [Romans] of the prince that shall come [antichrist] shall destroy the city and the sanctuary [abomination of desolation - a near fulfillment in 70 AD]; and the end thereof [far fulfillment] shall be WITH A FLOOD, and unto the end of the war desolations are determined.

In the middle of the 7 years, the antichrist breaks his covenant. He begins his massacre of the Jews, trying to wipe out the nation so the promise of God can't be fulfilled regarding their salvation and Kingdom.

Rev. 12:15-16 And the serpent cast out of his mouth water AS A FLOOD after the woman, that he might cause her to be carried away of the flood. ¹⁶ And the earth helped the woman, and the earth opened her mouth, and swallowed up the flood which the dragon cast out of his mouth.

THEN he goes after the saints of God from every nation, trying to destroy them all.

Rev. 12:17 And the dragon was wroth with the woman, and went to make war with the remnant of her seed, which keep the commandments of God, and have the testimony of Jesus Christ. He makes a complete destruction until his own desolation comes at the hands of Christ.

Dan. 8:25b He will be broken without human agency. No man will be able to deal with him or destroy him.

Dan. 7:13-14 "I kept looking in the night visions and behold, one like the Son of man came with the clouds of heaven, and came to the Ancient of Days, and they brought him near before Him. And there was given him dominion, and glory, and a kingdom, that all people, nations, and languages, should serve him: his dominion is an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and his kingdom that which shall not be destroyed.

Dan. 7:11 I beheld then because of the voice of the great words which the horn spake: I beheld even till the beast was slain, and his body destroyed, and given to the burning flame.

II Thess. 2:8 That lawless one will be revealed whom the Lord will slay with the breath of His mouth. [Agrees with Daniel > no human agency will destroy him - only the Lord Jesus Christ.]

Rev. 19:20 And the beast was taken... cast alive into a lake of fire burning with brimstone.

Dan. 11:36 And the king shall do according to his will; and he shall exalt himself, and magnify himself above every god, and shall speak marvelous things against the God of gods, and shall prosper till the indignation be accomplished: for that that is determined shall be done.

Jesus affirmed all of Daniels prophecy by quoting it:

Matt. 24:15 When ye therefore shall see the abomination of desolation, spoken of by Daniel the prophet, stand in the holy place, [Jesus affirmed Daniel]

Satan knows his time is short. We have already seen the unfolding of God's wrath in 7 seals and 7 trumpets. God's final wrath of the 7 bowls is about to begin.

God has opened up the pit and allowed all of the temporarily bound demons to come pouring out of that pit. [Rev. 9 Trumpets # 5 & 6.]

God has taken the binders off those two hundred million demons that were bound at the Euphrates River and set them loose. God has vacated the entire universe of the demons that occupy space between here and heaven and plunged them all to the earth, so Satan really is operating with the most massive force he's ever known. It will be demonism at its historical height. Satan will endeavor to make his final great onslaught against God.

God's wrath and Satan's fury are both at their apex simultaneously. The whole universe falling to pieces under the wrath of God and all hell breaking loose under the fury of Satan.

The antichrist, Satan's chief weapon, is the human who basically sits on top of all the human operation in response to satanic power, planning and demonic possession.

Rev. 13 describes his method: the end-time form of the old Roman empire which, by this point in the Tribulation, has developed into a 10 nation confederation with a very subtle leader, one whom Satan will now use in the most hideous ways.

With the rise of the beast and the false prophet in Rev. 13, we are introduced to the 'trinity from hell.' Both are the product of the machinations of that old serpent, the devil or Satan.

Rev. 13 finds Satan on earth, unleashing his massive effort to defeat God and set up his own kingdom through the antichrist. It takes us to the end of the 7 years and the final battle in which Satan engages God and Christ as he attempts to get sovereign rule and worship equal to God.

Satan is the "god of this world." [II Cor. 4:4] He aims to have a counterfeit for everything God has.

- As God sent His Son into the world, Satan will send Antichrist into the world.
- As God was in Christ, Satan will incarnate himself in Antichrist. [at the midpoint]
- The "Mystery of Godliness" is God manifest in the "flesh." I Tim. 3:16
- The "Mystery of Iniquity" will be Satan manifest in the "flesh." II Thess. 2:7

Rev. 13:1 And he [I?] stood upon the sand of the sea [symbol of Gentile nations, Rev. 17:15], and saw a beast rise up out of the sea, having 7 heads and 10 horns, and upon his horns 10 crowns, and upon his heads the name of blasphemy.

Recall: Satan and 1/3 of the angels were cast out of heaven during a rebellion before creation.

- Archangel Michael and the other angels will have a war with Satan and his demons. Satan will be forever cast out of heaven at the 3 ½ year mark of the 7 year Tribulation period.
- In his attempt to prevent God's fulfillment of Christ's earthly kingdom, Satan will attempt to annihilate the Jews. God will supernaturally protect a remnant of the Jews in her prepared place for the last 42 months of the Tribulation Period. [Rev. 12:14-16]
- Rev. 12 closed with the dragon, who, knowing his time was short, was enraged with the woman, Israel. He goes off to make war with her children.

Rev. 13:1: We find him standing on the seashore with the beast [AC] rising out of the sea.

In the Greek text, this is verse 18 of Rev. 12.

- This is a logical progression of cause and effect.
This continues the story of the dragon who is defined as Satan in Rev. 12:9.
- Older manuscripts have HE STOOD = the angry dragon

Consider: Isaiah likens the nations to a roaring and restless sea that cannot be quiet and whose waters can only churn up refuse and mud: a fitting picture of the products of a world without peace with God. [Isa. 17:12-13; 57]

The great red dragon is standing [symbolically] over the nations of the world as if he possesses them. John said, "I saw a beast coming up out of the sea."

From the context, the angry dragon looks out over the sea of nations.

John MacArthur: I believe Satan summons forth the beast.

He will then implement the system of the beast to carry out his desired goals.

- The Persecution of Israel
- His Own Worship

Beast = qhrion = wild and rapacious animal or beast.

- Used 46x in the New Testament - 35 of them are in Revelation
- Portrays the brutal, bloody, uncontrolled and wild character of the dictator and his system; it is inhuman.
- Portrays this antichrist figure as the epitome and paramount outgrowth of the character of Satan who is himself called "the great red dragon."

Important: You have to understand this monster beast in a twofold way.

1. He is a person and a system. He is a king and a kingdom.
2. He represents a kingdom: having seven heads and ten horns, and upon his horns ten crowns, and upon his heads the name of blasphemy.
3. He is a person: Always described with personal pronouns.
4. He is this monster, a king and a kingdom.

Think: See the satanic final world empire inseparable from the satanically empowered man who leads it. Ex.: as Adolph Hitler was from the Third Reich.

Compare the Beast out of the Sea with Satan

- Beast: 7 heads and 10 horns and upon his horns 10 crowns,
- Satan: 7 heads and 10 horns and 7 crowns upon his heads.

Horns always represent power: both offensive power to attack and defensive power to protect. They represent strength and force. They represent these nations that will confederate together as one, forming what is a revived Roman empire.

The stage of the empire depicted by the beast is the period after the emergence of the little horn, the future world ruler, displacing three of the horns (Dan. 7:8)

Rev. 13:2a And the beast which I saw was like unto a leopard, and his feet were as the feet of a bear, and his mouth as the mouth of a lion:

3 animals in Rev. 13:2 remind us of the 4 beasts of Daniel in Dan. 7:7, 23

- Lion = Babylon Bear = Medo/Persia Leopard = Greece Terrible Beast = Rome
- Lion = regal power Bear = ferociousness Leopard = great speed
- The beast will move forcefully and quickly to establish his worldwide domination.

Note: This time they are all embodied in the one beast.

The Little Horn that emerged from Daniel's 4th Beast [Rome] is John's Beast Out Of Sea
 Compare Little Horn Of Dan. 7 With John's Beast in Revelation 13

| Little Horn - Dan. 7 | | Beast - Rev. 13 | |
|----------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------|-------------------------------|
| 8, 20 | Speaks Great Things | 5 | Speaks Great Things |
| 25 | Blasphemes Against God | 5-6 | Blasphemes Against God |
| 25 | Reigns For 3 ½ yrs; 1260 days | 5 | Reigns For 3 ½ yrs; 1260 Days |
| 21, 25 | Make War Against The Saints | 7 | Makes War Against The Saints |
| 25 | Wear Out The Saints | 7 | Overcomes The Saints |

Upon his heads the name of blasphemy: This will be done in three primary ways:

- By claiming he is God II Thess. 2:3-4
- By trying to usurp the place of God II Thess. 2:4; Dan. 7:8
- Slandering the true God Rev. 13:6; Dan. 11:36-37; 7:25

Rev. 13:2b and the dragon gave him his power, and his seat [throne], and great authority.

Satan is allowed to give the beast three things.

1. "Power" = Greek *dunamis*, often used as the power to perform miraculous wonders.
 - II Thess. 2:9; Heb. 2:4; Acts 2:22; 6:8
 - Satan will perform miraculous feats through this man as a part of his deception.
2. "His throne" = his position as king or emperor of the revived Roman empire, ruling supremely over the rest of the nations. [This is the future #8 with AC as a dictator.]

Rev. 17:10-11 And there are seven kings: five are fallen, and one is, and the other is not yet come; and when he cometh, he must continue a short space. ¹¹ And the beast that was, and is not, even he is the eighth, and is of the seven, and goeth into perdition.

3. "Great authority" = the extension of his rule beyond the 10 nation confederation

Rev. 13:7 "power and authority over kindreds and tongue and nations."

The "Antichrist" is to be a KING and rule over a KINGDOM. He will accept the "Kingdoms of this world" that Satan offered Christ, and that Christ refused. [Matt. 4:8-10]

During the tribulation, as the unseen ruler of this world, Satan will have complete rule through the man of lawlessness, the beast, for a short time.

II Thess. 2:7 The one who hinders or restrains steps back. All restraint is gone.

The demons of the universe, who have been released out of the pit and freed from their bindings at the Euphrates, are all on the earth. God restrains absolutely nothing.

The first group of them that come out of the pit can harm unbelievers for 5 months. The next wave of them can kill with fire and brimstone. At the same time God is wreaking havoc by pouring out the fury of a collapsing universe on the heads of those in the world.

The holocaust is unimaginable.

In Rev. 13:1 John saw a beast rise [or come up] out of the sea. When the chaos gets so bad and there are no answers and no solution, you have the perfect situation for leadership to develop. Leaders are born in a crisis. Leaders rise in the midst of unsolvable problems. Leaders come to the top when there are no solutions. It is in the frightening and horrible chaos of the world that this man is able to rise, empowered by Satan and seize authority in the midst of emergency.

So successful will be his rise that men will be thrilled by his masterly genius and accept the principle that only an imperial form of government will be able to give them lasting peace. They'll throw aside their freedoms, just for peace. This man will come on the scene at the beginning of the tribulation and bring peace. That tells us that before his rise, there will be utter worldwide chaos. When the church is taken out of the world, it will most likely be a time of great chaos.

Think about Germany in the mid-1930's. Hitler didn't just pop up out of nowhere. He didn't come from the top down. He came from the bottom up. Why? People in Germany were in economic despair. They were in spiritual despair. There was political chaos. They were experiencing economic depression. Small businesses were collapsing all over Germany one by one in every city. Millions of people were out of work. It was a desperate time and people were looking for somebody to lead them out. Hitler knew the mood of the people and the strategy of the moment. Adolph Hitler started out as a lowly corporal, worked his way up in the Reichstag until he was at last in charge of everything. He emerged from absolute and utter obscurity to become the central figure in the world and himself demon possessed.

From that position of power, which he gained because of the chaos, he plunged the whole of Europe into his bloody reign of terror which was a preview of what it will be like on a worldwide scale when the antichrist comes.

One greater than Hitler will arise out of the chaos that will prevail in the world and be a man of marvelous appearance, transcendent ability, and indescribable magnetism. Problem is he will be possessed, indwelt and moved by a demon out of the abyss. He will have great authority. The world will give the authority for all of it into his hands.

He is Satan's supreme human instrument to destroy Israel, to prevent her salvation and Kingdom, to kill believers, to conquer the world and to defeat Christ so that Satan can get what he wants, and that is to rule as God.