



ACCM

Bible Study: Tuesday, Nov 19th, 2019. Topic: THE MARK OF THE BEAST Part 1

TEXTS: Rev 13:1-9.

INTRODUCTION: As we begin this bible study my mind goes back to how we use to introduce our debates in those days when were kids in the primary school. It used to go something like this; good evening fellow debaters, unbiased judges and members of the audience. My name is and I am here today to prove to you that Truly, I am not here today to prove anything. I am here to study the bible. If you do not believe in the Bible, none of the things we say here will make sense to you. And so, it might look as if all the things we're seeing today or after today, are formulated to frighten you. Friends, I want to say to you that it is not my aim and purpose to frighten anybody. Also, if you have never believed the Bible and you've not given the Holy Spirit the chance to work with you, I can almost guarantee you that there is nothing we will read here or study here that will make sense to you. Some people will leave this study and say very derogatory statements about it and some will make it a laughing stock. However, will these actions make the truth of no effect or will that make the truth to become a lie. The bible says in Prov. 23:23 'buy the truth and sell it not'. The voice translation says invest in the truth. The reason for this study today is so that we may have knowledge, insight and foresight into where the world is going and so we are not ignorant of the happenings around us. God bless you and thank you as we study this together tonight.

By the time we finish this study, who would have a good understanding of the beast and his operations. However typical with most of my Bible studies, I will help us to paint a picture of how we will get to the government of the beast and how he is going to function. This study, it's not going to focus on the coming government after the beast. That will be a study for another time.

In this study therefore, we are going to consider the following:

1. Who is the beast?
2. What are the other names of the beast in the Bible?
3. What is his origin?
4. When and where will he operate?
5. What will his operations look like?
6. How will he come on board?
7. Where does rapture and the Christians come in this scenario?
8. What is the significance of Israel in this matter?
9. How is the world preparing for the operations of the Beast?

DETAILS:

The operation of the beast is not going to be sudden. **Daniel 9:20-27.**

Activity: (Please Google the beast in Revelations and let me see.

I will therefore want us to consider studying Revelations Chapter 12 and understand it before we move into this topic proper which is "the mark of the beast".

TEXT: Rev 12:1-13.

The KJV used the word a great **wonder** appeared. The NKJV used the word a great sign. What is the difference between both?

Note: The Greek word for wonder and sign in this passage is used interchangeably. It is "semeion". However, you will find out that word was derived from another Greek word which is "semaino" which means to signify.

Chronology of events: We will find out that the time lines in revelations are often not chronological and same goes for the narratives of the events.

Name all the personalities involved in this sign

1. **The Woman:** Gen 37:9-11, Isaiah 54:5-6. Jer. 3:1:6-8.
2. **The Male Child:** Isaiah 9:6-7. (Acts 1:9-11)
3. **The Dragon:**

The interplay of these personalities

1. The woman is about to give birth to a male child, but the dragon is waiting to destroy this child.
2. The dragon fails to destroy the child and instead goes after the mother. This mother is Israel like we have already mentioned. The woman flees to the wilderness where God prepares a place for her for 1260 days Daniel 9:27, Mark 13:8-14, Matthew 24:4-22.
3. The child is taken up miraculously by God.

Now since Satan's main domain now is the earth, he starts his maneuvers to win more people to himself and take them with him to hell. Daniel 9:24-27. Rev 12:15.

SO, WHAT IS HAPPENING TODAY?

An end date has been set for the devil: Rev 12:12

How short is the time referred to in Rev 12:12? II Peter 3:1-4, 8-10.

We are in the last seven days of the seventy sevens. Dan 9:21-27 That was also when the activities as seen in Revelations 12:13-17 started.

To successfully execute what has been planned in Rev 12:13-17, we can now skip to Chapter 13.

INTERLUDE

In one of our Sunday messages a few weeks ago, under the topic the victorious Christian, I mentioned that one attribute of a victorious Christian is the ability to watch. To watch is not the same as to see. You may see, but you are not watching. A watchman should be able to synthesize and analyze what he is seeing so he could take a decision. Watching involves knowledge but when you see, you may not really be thinking. A watch full Christian therefore will not be amazed at the happenings on earth today; from politics, to local and international conflict, to technology, to education, to social challenges like marriage. These are coming together to fulfill the end time prophecy to prepare the way for the second coming of Jesus Christ. Some might see these as the coincidences of time, but call it what you may, I tell you that prophecies are unfolding right before our eyes. Whether it is Obama winning the election, or Donald Trump, or Boris Johnson or whoever, let me tell you that they are just

pawns in the hands of almighty God to fulfill his designs and desires. Without leaders, certain remarkable and striking decisions will not be made. God needs these men to make decisions just like the ones that were made in the days when Jesus was born. Imagine that we did not have Caesar Augustus to make the decree that the census of the Romans and their subjects be taken, Jesus might never have been in Bethlehem, in fact perhaps He might have been born in Jerusalem. This will then make the prophecy of where he was going to be born not to be fulfilled. It was that decree of Caesar Augustus that caused the fulfilment of the prophecy that made Jesus to be born in Bethlehem. Today, that looks like a normal story that a certain leader dictated but we never realize that the powers of heaven were at play. There are decisions taken by President Obama that today are gradually paving way for the Antichrist to be revealed. In the same manner, there are also decisions taken by Donald Trump which are also paving the way for the appearance of the man of perdition. These are decisions that only these people could have taken. For instance, the explosion of abortion fights and LGBTQ challenges couldn't have been this formidable if President Obama did not give strength to these two issues. So many of the decisions taken by people in authority today all add up for the eventual revelation of the man of sin on the stage. To the ordinary men therefore, it may look like day-to-day political decisions, but to the spiritual watchmen, we know that prophecies are being fulfilled. Do we want to consider the use of technology today, for instance technologies like the cell Phone, the 5G telephone system, the proliferation of chips, drones, the latest building innovations, design of cars, Payment systems etc. These have had a tremendous effect on how people are being monitored or going to be monitored and interestingly how God is worshipped. These are preambles or preparations for the Antichrist to come upstage. About twenty-six years ago I was teaching a Sunday school in a large Church in Nigeria. The topic of the Sunday school that morning has to do with end time message. This time in Nigeria, telephones were very rare and in fact that day in church, there may have been no one with a cell phone. During the discussion, I mentioned that cell phones will become so cheap in Nigeria that's the roadside corn seller the hair dresser will own more than one phone. This point, many people laughed and thought that I was crazy. In fact after the service some people came to me and said my interactions with the Western world is making me crazy. Let us look up the situation today and find out if I was right or wrong. In Nigeria today, some individuals own more than one cell phones and in fact some own multiple numbers of SIM cards. I said during that Sunday school class that these phones were not going to be available just for commercial reason

but that they were going to be instruments for monitoring by the Antichrist. This is the reason why I never lose sleep or worry myself about the winner of an election. I know that God puts leaders and God removes them for his use and his purpose.

I will stop here and go back to the original questions we started with

The Antichrist will not just suddenly begin to terrorize everyone. He will start subtly. He will even deceive Israel to sign an accord with him.