

## Lesson 4

### The Antichrist Beast, Dragon, Woman and 666.

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We ended the previous chapter by asking several key questions. First, where did this beast receive its power; power to rule the world for 1260 years? Power to martyr millions of people, change God's laws and claim to be God's representative on earth? The Bible answers in **Revelation 13:2**, **"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: and the DRAGON gave him his power, and his seat, and the great authority."** "THE DRAGON." Who is this? **Revelation 12:7-9** gives the shocking answer. **"And there was war in heaven: Michael and his angels fought against the dragon; and the dragon fought and his angels, And prevailed not; neither was their place found any more in heaven. And the great DRAGON was cast out, that old SERPENT, CALLED THE DEVIL, AND SATAN, which deceiveth the whole world: he was cast out into the earth, and his angels were cast out with him."** The dragon is none other than the Devil and Satan himself! How can this be? Let's get a broader picture. **Verse 9** says, **"The Devil and Satan which DECEIVED THE WHOLE WORLD."** When did the Devil deceive the whole world? It was in the Garden of Eden with Adam and Eve. Let's back up a bit to understand this. **Verses 7-9** spoke of a war in heaven between God and Satan. Satan began to rebel against God. He desired to be like God, and sit on His throne **Isaiah 14:12-14**, **"How art thou fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! how art thou cut down to the ground, which didst weaken the nations! For thou hast said in thine heart, I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God: I will sit also upon the mount of the congregation, in the side of the north: I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will be like the most High."** Also in **Ezekiel 28: 14** we find that even though he was next to the throne occupying one of the highest positions in heaven he was not content. **"Thou art the anointed cherub that covereth; and I have set thee so: thou wast upon the holy mountain of God; thou hast walked up and down in the midst of the stones of fire."** **Verse 17** says his heart was lifted up because of his beauty. Pride and covetousness got the best of him and he began to spread his rebellion throughout heaven. **"Thine heart was lifted up because of thy beauty, thou has corrupted thy wisdom by reason of thy brightness: I will cast thee to the ground, I will lay thee before kings, that they may behold thee."** As it came to a conflict, God had to expel Satan and the angels that followed him down to this earth. **Second Peter 2:4**, **"For if God spared not the angels that sinned, but cast them down to hell, and delivered them into chains of darkness, to be reserved unto judgment."** Since the devil had challenged God, and influenced so many angels, God in His wisdom decided to let evil run its course. As Satan was cast down to this earth, it

was perfect, sinless, and untainted. God basically said, "Okay Satan, here is a perfect world. You run your program here, I'll run mine up in heaven, and when it's over we will let the people decide!" One only has to look at this present world of sickness, death, pain, war, crime, immorality, and heartache to see the devil's plan is hell on earth!

When the devil deceived Adam and Eve we find that God placed a curse on him, and then in **Genesis 3:15** He gave a powerful prophecy. **"And I will put enmity between THEE and the WOMAN, and between THY SEED and HER SEED; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel."** Notice the differences. There is Satan, and the woman. Satan will bring forth a seed, so will the woman. Satan's seed will get a death blow. The woman's seed will get a temporary wound. When God speaks prophetically, a woman always represents the church, or God's faithful people. **Jeremiah 6:2**, **"I have likened the daughter of Zion to a comely and delicate woman."** Jesus is the Bridegroom, His church is His Bride (**Matthew 25:1-13, Isaiah 62: 5**). So God is saying, "Devil, from now on there are only two sides!" Everyone is on one side or the other. These two sides were immediately apparent in the first two children born, Cain and Abel. Abel obeyed God's word, Cain substituted or used a counterfeit of God's word. This has always been the trademark of the devil's side, to counterfeit the word of God. After Cain murdered his brother Abel, his descendants began to corrupt the earth until there was an estimated two to three billion people on this planet. The devil tried hard to destroy all of God's followers, for if he was successful then the prophecy of the "seed of the woman" would never come. He almost succeeded! There were only eight people left on earth who were true to God: Noah and his family. So God had to intervene and preserve Noah's family by having them build the ark. After destroying the earth and all its wicked people with a flood, we see the two sides emerge again. The wicked began to build the tower of Babel and then the great city of **Babylon** which

we have already studied much about. Here in Babylon, Satan began a new plan for destroying the knowledge of God in the world. He began a new system of worship, revolving around the planetary gods of the sun, moon, and stars. Here astrology was born. Idolatry began. The occult, pagan philosophies, and false teachings were created in Babylon, all for one purpose. To lead the world away from the truth of the Bible and the knowledge of God. This system of falsehood began to spread rapidly. The next world ruling kingdom, Medo-Persia continued its spread, then Greece, and finally Rome ruled the world. By this time the devil had been so successful in spreading Babylon's false teachings we find even God's chosen people, the Jews, were greatly influenced by the pagan teachings and practices of Babylon. It was a dark hour, Satan was triumphant for he seemed to have the entire world in his control. It was then, at this dark hour, that God again intervened. The prophecy of **Genesis 3:15** was imminent. The seed of the woman was to come. Let's see it happen.

**Revelation 12:1-5, "And there appeared a great wonder in heaven; a woman clothed with the sun, and the moon under her feet, and upon her head a crown of twelve stars: And she being with child cried, travailing in birth, and pained to be delivered. And there appeared another wonder in heaven; and behold a great red dragon, having seven heads and ten horns, and seven crowns upon his heads. And his tail drew the third part of the stars of heaven, and did cast them to the earth: and the dragon stood before the woman which was ready to be delivered, for to devour her child as soon as it was born. And she brought forth a man child, who was to rule all nations with a rod of iron: and her child was caught up unto God, and to his throne."** Let, see what this is. The dragon is Satan. The woman is the church. Notice though, the

dragon has seven heads. What do these seven heads represent? **Revelation 17:9, "And here is the mind which hath wisdom. The seven heads are seven mountains, on which the woman sitteth."** These heads represent seven mountains. The seven mountains of Rome. So we have Satan (the dragon) working through Rome, to kill the seed of the woman when He is born. The seed of the woman is obviously Jesus Christ. And true to the prophecy, a Roman authority named Herod did try to kill Jesus at His birth. However, Jesus was protected, He lived and then died on the cross of Calvary. This was the temporary wound or "bruised heel," for on the third day Jesus rose from the tomb and ascended to heaven.

Now the tables were turned. Jesus Christ had restored the truth long hidden by Babylon's false teaching. Christianity began to spread rapidly and the knowledge of God and His Word was quickly carried to the world. The devil's plan had again been thwarted, and he was angry. He had almost succeeded, but now that the seed of the woman (Jesus Christ) had come, all the devil's efforts had failed. He tried to stop God's truth by persecution, force, paganism, and idolatry. It all failed. Now what was he to do? Well, he said, "If you can't fight them, JOIN THEM!" Satan then began his MASTER PLAN. If he could develop a universal church, based on old Babylon's teachings, and disguise it with the cloak of Christianity, he could lead the whole world astray, all in the name of the Lord! And thus the devil was forced to bring forth his seed in the next chapter - the beast of **Revelation 13**. The seed of the woman was Jesus Christ. The seed of the dragon is the Antichrist! This is why **verse 2** says "the dragon gave him his power, seat, and authority." Satan craftily combined both pagan and Christian ideas, and came up with a counterfeit system. This is why the beast of **Revelation 13** is pictured as being made up of the four beast of **Daniel 7**, with the

body of the leopard, feet of the bear, heads of the lion, and ten horns from the fourth beast. For, when it was formed, it drew part of its doctrines, beliefs, practices and teachings, from these four beasts or pagan kingdoms, not only from the Bible. Now we see the big picture. God is simply pointing out the beast power was a vehicle used to bring in the errors of Babylon. During the 1260 years the beast ruled, it spread the same false teachings and practices to all the world, only under the guise of Christianity to be more deceiving. It is this that God warns us about in Revelation.

Let's get a few examples to illustrate how a teaching from Babylon can walk into our homes and churches and we don't even realize it. We'll select two examples everyone can be comfortable with.

What about Easter? Did you ever wonder how the whole Christian world began to celebrate Easter as the resurrection of Jesus? We know it cannot be the day of His resurrection because Easter is seldom on the same DATE. Easter always comes the first Sunday after the first full moon, after the equinox.

Long before Christianity, Babylon had a goddess named "Ishtar," the goddess of reproduction. In the spring she was honored as the giver of all new life. Eggs, a symbol of fertility, were worshipped, and rabbits, prolific reproducers, were also worshipped. That's where we get Easter rabbits and Easter eggs! Ishtar's day was always celebrated the first Sunday, after the first full moon, after the equinox. As we progress through history, we come to Rome around 300 A.D. Constantine, the ruler, claimed he had become a Christian. He simply took Ishtar's day and transferred it to honor JESUS CHRIST the giver of life, on EASTER. Papal Rome continued this, and during the following 1260 years spread it to the

whole world. That's why all Christians celebrate Easter. Now nothing is wrong with a celebration of the Lord's resurrection, this is just one illustration of how a pagan teaching can easily come into the church, and no one even questions it!

What about Christmas on December 25? It too comes from Babylon. In Babylon the SUN was worshipped as the supreme god. This sun worship had even come into God's church. As the year progressed and the days grew shorter the people feared the sun was leaving them. On December 22 the shortest day of the year, they began conducting long rituals and sacrifices to the sun god, appealing for it to return for another year. On December 25 they could determine the day was getting longer again and on this day they held a great celebration rejoicing in the re-birth of the sun! This was practiced right from Babylon up to Rome. Constantine did the same thing here. He substituted the birth of the sun in the sky for the birth of the Son of God - Jesus Christ. Papal Rome continued it, spread it to all the world, and that's why many Christians celebrate December 25! Again, there's nothing wrong with celebrating the birth of Christ, however, it should raise our conscious level to ask the question, "If these things slipped in so easily, could there be other things too? Teachings and practices that DO contradict the Word of God? Yes! There is MUCH more than you might EVER imagine! God warns the world of it in these words of **Revelation 18:2-3, "And he cried mightily with a strong voice, saying, Babylon the great is fallen, is fallen, and is become the habitation of devils, and the hold of every foul spirit, and a cage of every unclean and hateful bird. For all nations have drunk of the wine of the wrath of her fornication, and the kings of the earth have committed fornication with her, and the merchants of the earth are waxed rich through the abundance of her delicacies."** God says the whole

world is DRUNK with the wine of Babylon and its false teachings. And through this drunken stupor God's Word shines giving the invitation of **verse 4**, **"And I heard another voice from heaven, saying, COME OUT OF HER, MY PEOPLE, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues."** Come out of her MY people. That's very beautiful. God says HIS people are in Babylon, and He invites them to come out and worship in spirit and TRUTH. In the next lessons, we will learn more and more about what is truth so we can step by step come out of darkness into light.

Finally, let's have one last mark of identification. **Revelation 13:18**, **"Here is wisdom. Let him that hath understanding count the number of the beast: for it is the number of a man; and his number is Six hundred threescore and six" - 666.** Bible prophecy has told us the Antichrist beast has a man at its head. That man is the one who speaks for it - the Pope. The Bible says his number is 666. The Latin alphabet is used by the Church and Rome. Roman letters have numerical value. Every person's name also had a number because of the Roman alphabet having numerical value. God is simply telling us it is the number of a man, and his number adds up to 666.

In the official Roman Catholic weekly magazine, OUR SUNDAY VISITOR, April 18, 1915, this question was asked in the question and answer column: "What are the letters inscribed in the Pope's crown, and what do they signify if anything." Here's the answer given according to the Catholic magazine itself: "The letters inscribed in the Pope's miter are these: VICARIUS FILII DEI which is the Latin for Vicar of the Son of God."

VICARIUS FILII DEI is one of the most exalted titles of the Roman pontiff and is the official name of the Pope. Computing the value of the Roman Numerals, we discover an amazing fact:

<b>V</b>	=	5
<b>I</b>	=	1
<b>C</b>	=	100
<b>A</b>	=	no value
<b>R</b>	=	no value
<b>I</b>	=	1
<b>U</b>	=	5
<b>S</b>	=	no value
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		112
<b>F</b>	=	no value
<b>I</b>	=	1
<b>L</b>	=	50
<b>I</b>	=	1
<b>I</b>	=	1
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		53
<b>D</b>	=	500
<b>E</b>	=	no value
<b>I</b>	=	1
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		501

If you add up the numerical value, you'll find out Vicarius = 112, Filii = 53, Dei = 501 - and it equals the number 666. He has four more names in Latin - official titles given in Catholic literature - every one of them adds up to 666; he has three names in Greek, two names in Hebrew, all adding up to 666.

Here in Greek and Hebrew transliterations are other names or titles of the Pope.

LATEINOS in Greek means Latin man or Church.

**L** = 30 lambda  
**A** = 1 alpha  
**T** = 300 tau  
**E** = 5 epsilon  
**I** = 10 iota  
**N** = 50 nu  
**O** = 70 omicron  
**S** = 200 sigma

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**666**

ROMIITH in Hebrew means Roman Kingdom.

**R** = 200 resh  
**O** = 6 waw (vav)  
**M** = 40 mem  
**I** = 10 yod  
**I** = 10 yod  
**TH** = 400 taw

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**666**

The Greek HE LATINE BASILEIA, means the Latin Kingdom.

**H** = 0 (transliterated)  
**E** = 8 eta

**L** = 30 lambda  
**A** = 1 alpha  
**T** = 300 tau

**I** = 10 iota  
**N** = 50 nu  
**E** = 8 eta

**B** = 2 beta  
**A** = 1 alpha  
**S** = 200 sigma  
**I** = 10 iota  
**L** = 30 lambda  
**E** = 5 epsilon  
**I** = 10 iota  
**A** = 1 alpha

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**666**

Here is the Papal Church in Greek with its numeral values. ITALIKA  
EKKLESIA, which means Italian Church.

**I** = 10 iota  
**T** = 300 tau  
**A** = 1 alpha  
**L** = 30 lambda  
**I** = 10 iota  
**K** = 20 kappa  
**A** = 1 alpha

**E** = 5 epsilon  
**K** = 20 kappa  
**K** = 20 kappa  
**L** = 30 lambda  
**E** = 8 eta  
**S** = 200 sigma  
**I** = 10 iota  
**A** = 1 alpha

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One of the early names for the Pope was PONTIFEX MAXIMUS. This in Latin means Supreme Pontifex. The Pope has had a number of titles down through the centuries. Here are two in Latin with their meanings:

DUX CLERI - Captain of the Clergy.

LUDO VICUS - Chief Vicar of the Court of Rome.

Here are the titles of the Pope with numerical values for the Roman numerals:

**D** = 500

**U** = 5

**X** = 10

**C** = 100

**L** = 50

**E** = no value

**R** = no value

**I** = 1

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**666**

**L** = 50

**U** = 5

**D** = 500

**O** = no value

**V** = 5

**I** = 1

**C** = 100

**U** = 5

**S** = no value

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**666**

Now friends, God's Word is clear! As the Word has exposed error and shown the light we see how important it is to KNOW the truth and not follow a counterfeit. We've just begun to scratch the surface. Jesus appeals to us in **Matthew 15:9, "But in vain they do worship me, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men,"** Let's not worship in vain. God has revealed that the devil has brought in HIS counterfeit system to change God's truth and has mixed truth with error. God's question to us is, "Are you following the Word, or baptized paganism?" As we continue on, we're going deeper. Don't miss a link in the chain as we lead up to the chapter on the Mark of the Beast, it's so important! **Revelation 14: 9-10, "And the third angel followed them, saying with a loud voice, If any man worship the beast and his image, and receive his mark in his forehead, or in his hand, The same shall drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is poured out without mixture into the cup of his indignation; and he shall be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels, and in the presence of the Lamb."** In closing I invite you to read Proverbs 4:18, "But the path of the just is as a shining light, that shineth more and more unto the perfect day." God wants our path to grow brighter and brighter as we go on. Thank God for truth, and for His mercy.