Revelation Unholy Trinity

5-20-18

The Unholy Trinity: The Dragon The Beast The False Prophet

Rev.12&13 gives us all the participants in a great saga. During all the judgments, seals, trumpets, and upcoming bowls, these participants are at work throughout the book of Revelation.



Revelation 13:1 (ESV) **Above picture O/H!** And I saw a beast rising out of the sea, with ten horns and seven heads, with ten diadems on its horns and blasphemous names on its heads.

Interpretation:

As this picture indicates, things are very different in the Book of Revelation. Thus, the most literal interpretation and the most literal representation provide the most clarity of the heavenly signs in C.12&13. Therefore, in C.12 we will see that the woman represents Israel, the child represents Christ, and the dragon represents Satan.

Revelation 12:1-6 (ESV)

And **a great sign** appeared in heaven: **a woman** clothed with the sun, with the moon under her feet, and on her head a crown of twelve stars. ² She was pregnant and was crying out in birth pains and the agony of giving birth. ³ And **another sign** appeared in heaven: behold, **a great red dragon**, with seven heads and ten horns, and on his heads seven diadems. ⁴ His tail swept down a third of the stars of heaven and cast them to the earth. And the dragon stood before the woman who was about to give birth, so that when she bore her child he might devour it. ⁵ She gave birth to a male child, one who is to rule all the nations with a rod of iron, but her child was caught up to God and to his throne, ⁶ and the woman fled into the wilderness, where she has a place prepared by God, in which she is to be nourished for **1,260 days**.

Satan is a powerful fallen angel with 1/3 of all the angels following him. Satan's desire is to destroy the male child, Christ. In this heavenly sign, we see Christ as the "one who is to rule the nations with a rod of iron" and was caught up into heaven, at HIS resurrection. Notice it did not identify Christ as the one who was to redeem man, but Jesus is identified as the one, "who will return to rule with a rod of iron!" Christ's redemptive promises have been fulfilled. Now Christ exercises HIS authority to eradicate evil and restore the earth in the Book of Revelation. The 1,260 days is significant. With a literal interpretation, we see the "continuity" of Israel as a nation and being protected for 1,260 days. This is also the same period of time as the ministry of the two witnesses in Rev.11:3. Also this is the same time frame referenced in Dan.7:25, 9:27, 12:7, Rev.11:2-3, 13:5.

The emergence and prominence of Israel is consistent with OT prophecies, Zech. 12:2-3.

Zechariah 12:2-3 (ESV) **O/H**

² "Behold, I am about to make Jerusalem a cup of staggering to all the surrounding peoples. ³ On that day I will make Jerusalem a heavy stone for all the peoples.

The Book of Revelation is contemporary and there has always been a clash of good and evil, but during the Great Tribulation, it intensifies!

Revelation 12:7-9 (ESV)

⁷ Now war arose in heaven, **Michael and his angels** fighting against the dragon. And **the dragon and his angels** fought back, ⁸ but he was defeated, and there was no longer any place for them in heaven.

⁹ And the great dragon was thrown down, that ancient serpent, who is called the devil and Satan, the deceiver of the whole world—he was thrown down to the earth, and his angels were thrown down with him.

Satan and his angels are kicked out of heaven and heaven rejoices. Satan is furious and will take all his anger out on the inhabitants of the earth!

Revelation 12:10-12 (ESV)

¹⁰ And I heard a loud voice in heaven, saying, "Now the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Christ have come, **for the accuser of our brothers has been thrown down, who accuses them day and night before our God.** ¹¹ And they have conquered him by **the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony,** for they loved not their lives even unto death. ¹² Therefore, rejoice, O heavens and you who dwell in them! **But woe to you, O earth and sea, for the devil has come down to you in great wrath, because he knows that his time is short!**"

This conflict "intensifies" during The Tribulation!

Revelation 12:13-14 (ESV)

¹³ And when the dragon saw that he had been thrown down to the earth, he pursued the woman who had given birth to the male child. ¹⁴ But the woman was given the two wings of the great eagle so that she might fly from the serpent into the wilderness, to the place where she is to be nourished for **a time**, **and times**, **and half a time**.

Again, the time frame of the Great Tribulation of "a time, and times, and half a time" is identified which relates back to Daniel 7:25, 9:27, 12:7 and also corresponds to Rev.13:5; the Beast, the Anti-Christ.

Satan continues his attack on the woman (Israel) and her offspring! Her offspring are those who have responded to the ministry of the 144,000 and the two witnesses who already been have identified. These are the only evangelists recorded in Revelation!

Revelation 12:15-17 (ESV)

15 The serpent poured water like a river out of his mouth after the woman, to sweep her away with a flood.
16 But the earth came to the help of the woman, and the earth opened its mouth and swallowed the river that the dragon had poured from his mouth. 17 Then the dragon became furious with the woman and went off to make war on the rest of her offspring, on those who keep the commandments of God and hold to the testimony of Jesus.

Now we will see the revelation of the Unholy Trinity: Satan, Anti-Christ, and the False Prophet. This is Satan's all out attack on everything Holy to God. The Book of Revelation is contemporary and we have witnessed glimpses of similar attacks throughout the ages, but now it has intensified culminating during the Great Tribulation.



Revelation 13:1–2 (ESV) **Above picture O/H!**And I saw a beast rising out of the sea, with ten horns and seven heads, with ten diadems on its horns and blasphemous names on its heads. ² And the beast that I saw was like a leopard; its feet were like a bear's, and its mouth was like a lion's mouth. **And to it the dragon gave his power and his throne and great authority.**

Here we have the 1st and 2nd parts of the unholy trinity. Satan empowers the Anti-Christ to carryout all of his bidding! The Anti-Christ is Satan incarnate. Incarnate Evil!

Unique: The Anti-Christ will be mortally wounded! Revelation 13:3 (ESV)

One of its heads seemed to have a **mortal wound**, but its **mortal wound was healed**, and the whole earth marveled as they followed the beast.

Unique fact: The Anti-Christ being killed and coming back to life, adds to his popularity!

Revelation 13:4 (ESV)

And they worshiped the dragon, for he had given his authority to the beast, and they worshiped the beast, saying, "Who is like the beast, and who can fight against it?"

Interesting Fact: Anti-Christ is antichristian! Again, we must take notice of the 42 months, which identifies his reign!

Revelation 13:5-6 (ESV)

⁵ And the beast was given a mouth uttering haughty and blasphemous words, and it was allowed to exercise authority for **forty-two months**. ⁶ It opened its mouth to utter blasphemies against God, blaspheming his name and his dwelling, that is, those who dwell in heaven.

Complementary verses about the Anti-Christ:

Revelation 13:7 (ESV)

Also (the Anti-Christ) was allowed to make war on the saints and to conquer them.

The mirror verse in Dan.7:21:

As I looked, this horn (Anti-Christ) made war with the saints and prevailed over them.

Daniel and Thess. add details on the Anti-Christ!Daniel 7:25 (ESV)

The Anti-Christ shall speak words against the Most High, and shall wear out the saints of the Most High, and shall think to change the times and the law; and they shall be given into his hand for a time, times, and half a time.

2 Thessalonians 2:3–4 (ESV)

³ ... the man of lawlessness is revealed, the son of destruction, ⁴ who opposes and exalts himself against every so-called god or object of worship, so that he takes his seat in the temple of God, proclaiming himself to be God.

Unique event! Jesus kills the Anti-Christ!

2 Thessalonians 2:8 (ESV)

And then the lawless one will be revealed, whom the Lord Jesus will kill with the breath of his mouth and bring to nothing by the appearance of his coming.

As Satan incarnate, the Anti-Christ will have tremendous power!

2 Thessalonians 2:9 (ESV)

The coming of the lawless one is by the activity of Satan with all power and false signs and wonders.

The entire world will worship the Anti-Christ. Those who do not worship him will be put to death.

Revelation 13:7b-10 (ESV)

And authority was given it over every tribe and people and language and nation, ⁸ and all who dwell on earth will worship it, everyone whose name has not been written before the foundation of the world in the book of life of the Lamb who was slain. ⁹ If anyone has an ear, let him hear:

If anyone is to be taken captive, to captivity he goes; if anyone is to be slain with the sword, with the sword must he be slain.

Here is a call for the endurance and faith of the saints.

In Revelation, the believer's endurance is to expect death with the assurance of heaven.

We have seen the Dagon and the Beast of the unholy trinity. Now we see the Another Beast – The third part of the unholy trinity – He is called the False Prophet in Rev.16:13, 19:20, 20:10. He is the Evil miracle worker!

Revelation 13:11–18 (ESV)

11 Then I saw another beast rising out of the earth. It had two horns like a lamb and it spoke like a **dragon.** 12 It exercises all the authority of the first beast in its presence, and makes the earth and its inhabitants worship the first beast, whose mortal wound was **healed.** ¹³ It performs great signs, even making fire come down from heaven to earth in front of people, 14 and by the signs that it is allowed to work in the presence of the beast it deceives those who dwell on earth, telling them to make an image for the beast that was wounded by the sword and yet lived. 15 And it was allowed to give breath to the image of the beast, so that the image of the beast might even speak and might cause those who would not worship the image of the beast to be slain. 16 Also it causes all, both small and great, both rich and poor, both free and slave, to be marked on the right hand or the forehead, ¹⁷ so that no one can buy or sell unless he has the mark, that is, the name of the beast or the number of its name. ¹⁸ This calls for wisdom: let the one who has understanding calculate the number of the beast, for it is the number of a man, and his number is 666.

False Prophet: Horns like a lamb, but speaks like the Dragon! He performs miracles! He has an image of the Beast made, which he makes to speak. He then forces everyone worship the image of the Beast. He requires everyone to receive the mark of the beast, 666, in order to buy or sell. Any resistance results in death.

666 THE UNHOLY TRINITY! The mark necessary to live in the world! V.18 says, "This calls for wisdom!"

Of course Men will be redeemed during the Great Tribulation. However instead the promised kingdom victory of Christ's commission in Matt.28:18-20, Tribulation believers are promised to be martyred and asked to endure.

Dear church, we NOW have authority. With understanding let us proclaim with power and authority the closing statement of the Book of Revelation:

Revelation 22:17 (ESV) **O/H**The Spirit and the Bride **say**, **"Come."** And let the one who hears **say**, **"Come."**

Prophetic Team

Hear from the Holy Spirit to change the current situation or impact the future