

Christ Reformation Church

Tillamook, Oregon

You Must be Born Again!

“The habit of preachers today is to address their people as though they were all Christians and just need instruction...men and women are being treated as saved who never knew they were lost.”

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The Dissolution of Borders and the One World Order to Come

December 21, 2024

Sermon Text: Revelation 13

Scripture Reading: Daniel 2

I believe in God, the Father
Almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ,
His only begotten Son, our Lord;
who was conceived by the Holy
Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was
buried.

He descended into hell.
On the third day he rose from the
dead;
He ascended into heaven,
and sits at the right hand of God
the Father Almighty;
from there he shall come again to
judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting.
AMEN.

.....

Is the idea of a coming one-world
order just the warning given by
crazy would-be prophets?
Certainly we must recognize that

this has indeed been the case many, many times. There is always someone who wants notoriety and craves to be someone who “knows.” They see signs of this supposed coming kingdom in just about everything.

But these kind are just a smoke-screen raised by the enemy to cause us all to dismiss *the idea of a coming one-world order* as nonsense. Crazy, just like these crazy conspiracy theorists. That’s what we are meant to conclude. The truth, however, is this:

There is indeed a coming one-world order (kingdom) led by a person the Bible calls “the man of lawlessness” or, “the Antichrist” – the Beast. And we are seeing his efforts to establish that worldwide kingdom even now, as he has been doing all through history.

Follow along as I read:

Rev 13:1-18 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.

(3) 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. (4) 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?”

(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. (7) Also it was allowed to make war on the saints and to conquer them. 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: (10) 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.

(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.

This is not craziness – it is the Word of God given to us so that we would be wise to the direction that world history is moving. A one world order, a one world religion, a one world ruler, a one world economy. It's foundation is, however, made of clay. It is thoroughly the work of man (his number is 6, and this world order is thoroughly 6, thoroughly of man and like the tower of Babel made of dirt.

2Th 2:1-12 Now concerning the

coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and our being gathered together to him, we ask you, brothers, (2) not to be quickly shaken in mind or alarmed, either by a spirit or a spoken word, or a letter seeming to be from us, to the effect that the day of the Lord has come.

(3) Let no one deceive you in any way. For that day will not come, unless the rebellion comes first, and 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. (5) Do you not remember that when I was still with you I told you these things?

(6) And you know what is restraining him now so that he may be revealed in his time. (7) **For the mystery of lawlessness is already at work.** Only he who now restrains it will do so until he is out of the way. (8) 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.

(9) **The coming of the lawless one is by the activity of Satan** with all power and false signs and wonders, (10) and with all wicked deception for those who are perishing, because they refused to love the truth and so be saved. (11) Therefore God sends them a strong delusion, so that they may believe what is false, (12) in order that all may be condemned who did not believe the truth but had pleasure in unrighteousness.

Once again - This is the Word of God. It is not the prediction of some nut standing on a street corner with a sign announcing the imminent end of the world. It is the Word of God and if we are wise, we will receive it as such.

The Mystery of Lawlessness is Already at Work

The story of history is largely the story of Satan attempting to establish this one-world evil kingdom over and over again, only

to fail. You heard it already in our reading of Daniel chapter 2 – the account of Nebuchadnezzar’s dream – the statue depicting the rise and fall of:

- Babylon
- Media-Persia
- Greece (Alexander the Great)
- Rome
- The Everlasting Kingdom of God – the stone that smashed the others

Dan 2:44 And in the days of those kings the God of heaven will set up a kingdom that shall never be destroyed, nor shall the kingdom be left to another people. It shall break in pieces all these kingdoms and bring them to an end, and it shall stand forever,

But for a short time, just before Christ comes again in judgment, this man of lawlessness, this agent of Satan – the Beast rising from the sea – will be allowed by the decree of the Lord to finally establish what he has been attempting to create ever since Eden – a one-world kingdom.

Now, Paul tells us that the mystery of lawlessness *is already at work*. He wrote that way, way back in the first century. But it is true today just as it was then. Satan is always working to usher in his one-world kingdom. Through the centuries he has raised up kings and kingdoms who had this as their goal – *Nebuchadnezzar*, Alexander, the Caesars, the myriads of little dictators who come and go, certainly Adolph Hitler. You heard Martyn Lloyd-Jones last week in his message on *The Devil and the Nations*, point out this very thing. Wicked men in history who demand all power and control and regard themselves as gods to be worshipped. Receive their mark or you will not be permitted to operate a business or to buy things, or even to continue to live. Offer incense to Caesar, or else.

This spirit of lawlessness is at work now –

1Jn 2:18-19 Children, it is the last hour, and as you have heard that antichrist is coming, so now many antichrists have come. Therefore

we know that it is the last hour. (19) They went out from us, but they were not of us; for if they had been of us, they would have continued with us. But they went out, that it might become plain that they all are not of us.

1Jn 4:1-3 Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God, for many false prophets have gone out into the world. (2) By this you know the Spirit of God: every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God, (3) and every spirit that does not confess Jesus is not from God. **This is the spirit of the antichrist, which you heard was coming and now is in the world already.**

These one-world empire efforts of Satan (who is the spirit of the antichrist) are his ongoing attempts to destroy Christ's kingdom. To stamp out Christ's church. To set himself up as God. What major world empire has ever been a friend of Christ's church? Except for brief interludes (Emperor Constantine?) world powers have

always been an enemy of Christianity.

The spirit of antichrist is already at work in the world. And we must not be in a panic about it – Christ is seated upon His heavenly throne, ruling over all. Nevertheless we must also be wise – that is why the Lord Jesus is telling us these things in His Word. Don't be duped. Don't worship the Beast. Don't let him put his mark on you, even if it means you are going to suffer and perhaps even be put to death.

Think of how Satan was working his plan even way back at Babel:

Gen 11:1-9 Now the whole earth had one language and the same words. (2) And as people migrated from the east, they found a plain in the land of Shinar and settled there. (3) And they said to one another, "Come, let us make bricks, and burn them thoroughly." And they had brick for stone, and bitumen for mortar.

(4) **Then they said, "Come, let us build ourselves a city and a tower**

with its top in the heavens, and let us make a name for ourselves, lest we be dispersed over the face of the whole earth.”

(5) And the LORD came down to see the city and the tower, which the children of man had built. (6) And the LORD said, “Behold, they are one people, and they have all one language, and this is only the beginning of what they will do. **And nothing that they propose to do will now be impossible for them.**

(7) Come, let us go down and there confuse their language, so that they may not understand one another's speech.” (8) So the LORD dispersed them from there over the face of all the earth, and they left off building the city. (9) Therefore its name was called Babel, because there the LORD confused the language of all the earth. **And from there the LORD dispersed them over the face of all the earth.**

Augustine’s book *The City of God* is all about this:

From these and similar testimonies, all of which it were tedious to cite, we have learned that there is a city of God, and its Founder has inspired us with a love which makes us covet its citizenship. **To this Founder of the holy city the citizens of the earthly city prefer their own gods,** not knowing that He is the God of gods, not of false, i.e., of impious and proud gods, who, being deprived of His unchangeable and freely communicated light, and so reduced to a kind of poverty-stricken power, eagerly grasp at their own private privileges, and seek divine honors from their deluded subjects;

Augustine, Saint. *The City of God* (Translated with an Introduction by Marcus Dods) (p. 296). Digireads.com Publishing. Kindle Edition.

The City of God and the City of Man – always at war. That is the real story of world history.

Eph 6:12-13 For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities,

against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. (13) Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand firm.

[NOTE: We will continue to listen to Lloyd-Jones' messages on Ephesians 6:10ff in the Sunday morning class over the next few weeks. I will send the link out to those messages to everyone who is on our weekly email list. Just let me know if you would like to be on it].

With the support of these and more Scriptures, we can confidently know these things with certainty:

- Any and all attempts to do away with the borders of individual nations is in defiance of God's clear decree that the nations are to be separated. At Babel the Lord separated them, lest they be united and enable to work all kinds of terrible evil. The

current attempts to dissolve our own nation's borders (as well as those of many European nations) are plain defiance of the Lord.

- Any efforts to establish a worldwide currency to replace the currency of individual nations' economies can be, with support of Scripture, considered a product and effort of Satan working toward a one-world kingdom. We have seen this in Europe and there are efforts in our own country now – digital currencies and so on. Just consider this aspect of Satan's kingdom:

Rev 13:16 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.

- The ongoing efforts to establish a one-world political

order. We certainly think of the United Nations which headquarters right here in our own nation. It is the notion of man that if we can just get all the nations together, united. We can once and for all put an end to wars – so that for example, WWI was “the war to end all wars.” The League of Nations was to see to it. *It is not God’s will that nations be united into some one world kingdom. Those efforts in history have always been the goal of oppressive regimes.*

- Efforts to establish a one-world religion which always, always, always, persecute and try to destroy Christ’s true Church. We have seen this in history, and even today, in Islam for example. But in my opinion an even clearer example is Rome. The Roman Catholic “church” has always persecuted the true church. Always. The Pope is always at work to establish his kingdom as a worldwide kingdom. There have been many eras in history when the Pope exerted

tremendous control over kings. And I am sure that in many covert ways he is doing the same thing now.

Now, we need to be clear that there IS going to be a one-world religion someday. But it will be the true religion, it will be the true Church of the Lord Jesus. It is never established by force of arms or persecution however. It grows by the gentle breeze of the Holy Spirit. “Not by might nor by power, but by My Spirit.”

- Any “kingdom building” that operates a propaganda machine which disseminates and encourages lies hatched by the devil in contradiction to the Word of God is a trait of Satan’s efforts to usher in the kingdom of Antichrist.

Rev 13:11-12 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.

This second beast is the point man of the man of lawlessness, the Antichrist and he is appropriately named “The False Prophet.” His job is to dupe the nations and lead them in worshipping the Antichrist.

Are we seeing these propaganda machine efforts today? Certainly every totalitarian regime has such a tool, but increasingly we are seeing it operative right here in our own country. The lies of “wokeness” are the platforms of the major networks. Truth is censored and those daring to speak it are attacked.

Satan’s Short Season

In timing known only to the Lord, there is coming a day when Satan is going to be permitted to accomplish the establishment of his worldwide kingdom. It will be a time of terrible persecution of Christ’s people and it will appear to

the entire world that this new king can never be defeated. They will detest anyone who refuses to worship him because he comes establishing world peace and probably all kinds of other benefits – economic prosperity for all, an end to hunger, perhaps great advances in science – who could possibly object to these things? Who? Christ’s true people, that’s who. Because they will know who is really behind all of it – the devil. Those who swear allegiance to this Beast do so at the cost of their souls and they will join him in hell.

Dan 12:8-10 I heard, but I did not understand. Then I said, “O my lord, what shall be the outcome of these things?” (9) He said, “Go your way, Daniel, for the words are shut up and sealed until the time of the end. (10) Many shall purify themselves and make themselves white and be refined, but the wicked shall act wickedly. And none of the wicked shall understand, but those who are wise shall understand.

But the unbinding of Satan is only

for a short time and he is loosed because the Lord will use him to deceive the nations into thinking that they can defeat Christ's kingdom. And here is the outcome

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Rev 20:7-10 And when the thousand years are ended, Satan will be released from his prison (8) and will come out to deceive the nations that are at the four corners of the earth, Gog and Magog, to gather them for battle; their number is like the sand of the sea. (9) And they marched up over the broad plain of the earth and surrounded the camp of the saints and the beloved city,

but fire came down from heaven and consumed them, (10) and the devil who had deceived them was thrown into the lake of fire and sulfur where the beast and the false prophet were, and they will be tormented day and night forever and ever.

As Martin Luther put it —

“And though this world, with

devils filled, should threaten to undo us,
we will not fear, for God has willed
his truth to triumph through us.
The prince of darkness grim,
we tremble not for him;
his rage we can endure,
for lo! his doom is sure;
one little word shall fell him.”