|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Grant Street Baptist Church** | **Sermon Notes** |
| **Jeremy Beck** | **August 11, 2021** |

Title: *“The Evil Trinity”*

Scripture: Revelation 13:1-18

Message: **1.** **The Evil God** *(Isaiah 14:13-14)*

Isaiah 14:13-14 “13You (Satan) said in your heart, “I will ascend to the heavens; I will raise my throne above the stars of God; I will sit enthroned on the mount of assembly, on the utmost heights of Mount Zaphon. 14I will ascend above the tops of the clouds; I will make myself like the Most High.”

-Satan’s goal has always been the same, to be God

-Since that’s impossible, he attempts the next best thing; to imitate God deceiving many people to believe he is God

**2. The Evil Son** *(Revelation 13:1-10)*

13 The dragon (Satan) stood on the shore of the sea (represents the Gentile nations of the world). And I saw a beast (Antichrist) coming out of the sea (will come from the Gentile nations). It had ten horns (represents the 10 kings he will form over the 10 nations that will rule the world) and seven heads (represents the worlds powers or empires), with ten crowns on its horns (represents that the Antichrist will rule the whole world through these 10 nations), and on each head a blasphemous name (they will speak slanderously with the intent to destroy God’s reputation). 2The beast I saw (the kingdom the Antichrist will form will resemble the mighty world empires of old) resembled a leopard (represents it’s swiftness like the kingdom of Greece under Alexander the Great), but had feet like those of a bear (represents it’s strength like the kingdom of the Medo-Persian empire) and a mouth like that of a lion (represents it’s majesty and power of the great Babylonian empire). The dragon (Satan) gave the beast (Antichrist) his power and his throne and great authority (what Satan offered to Jesus, he gives to the Antichrist instead; super naturally empowering him to be the greatest ruler of an empire the world has ever known). 3One of the heads of the beast seemed to have had a fatal wound (the Antichrist will stage his own death and resurrection in order to deceive the world into following him…his death and resurrection will be fake because only God has the power of life and death), but the fatal wound had been healed (will appear to have been resurrected). The whole world was filled with wonder and followed the beast. 4People worshiped the dragon because he had given authority to the beast, and they also worshiped the beast and asked, “Who is like the beast? Who can wage war against it?” (the resurrection of the Antichrist will cause the world to worship Satan because of his seemingly power to raise the Antichrist from the dead) 5The beast was given a mouth to utter proud words and blasphemies and to exercise its authority for forty-two months. 6It opened its mouth to blaspheme God, and to slander his name and his dwelling place and those who live in heaven (for the last 3 ½ years of the Tribulation the Antichrist will be given the knowledge and the ability to deliver forceful speeches, filled with promises and propaganda. He will also slander God with the intent to damage God’s reputation). 7It was given power to wage war against God’s holy people and to conquer them (those that were saved during the Tribulation will be slaughtered). And it was given authority over every tribe, people, language and nation. 8All inhabitants of the earth will worship the beast—all whose names have not been written in the Lamb’s book of life, the Lamb who was slain from the creation of the world. 9Whoever has ears, let them hear. 10“If anyone is to go into captivity, into captivity they will go. If anyone is to be killedwith the sword, with the sword they will be killed.” This calls for patient endurance and faithfulness on the part of God’s people. (a reminder that the Antichrist will be taken into captivity by God and his destiny is a violent ending by God’s judgment)

**3. The Evil Spirit** *(Revelation 13:11-18)*

11Then I saw a second beast (a False Prophet), coming out of the earth. It had two horns like a lamb, but it spoke like a dragon (the False Prophet will appear on the scene after the Antichrist has apparently brought a degree of stability to the chaotic world at the end of the 1st 3 ½ years of Tribulation…the False Prophet will be the religious world leader leading the world to follow the Antichrist). 12It exercised all the authority of the first beast on its behalf, and made the earth and its inhabitants worship the first beast, whose fatal wound had been healed (the False Prophet is empowered by Satan just as the Antichrist and his job is to point the world towards the Antichrist). 13And it performed great signs, even causing fire to come down from heaven to the earth in full view of the people. 14Because of the signs it was given power to perform on behalf of the first beast, it deceived the inhabitants of the earth (the great ability of the Antichrist to deceive the world will be enhanced by the fact that God Himself will cause them to have “strong delusion, so that they will believe the lie” – 2 Thess 2:11). It ordered them to set up an image in honor of the beast who was wounded by the sword and yet lived. 15The second beast was given power to give breath to the image of the first beast, so that the image could speak and cause all who refused to worship the image to be killed (the False Prophet will lead the world to not only follow the Antichrist as king, but to recognize him as God…the statue that they will create will appear to have life and can kill those that refuse to worship the idol of the Antichrist). 16It also forced all people, great and small, rich and poor, free and slave, to receive a mark on their right hands or on their foreheads, 17so that they could not buy or sell unless they had the mark, which is the name of the beast or the number of its name. 18This calls for wisdom. Let the person who has insight calculate the number of the beast, for it is the number of a man.That number is 666. (those who refuse the mark will be considered a traitor and will either be killed, or left to starve to death…the number 6 is used in the Bible to represent “man” and the number 3 is used to represent the “Trinity”…the evil trinity: Satan, Antichrist, False Prophet

Application:

* The Evil Trinity
* *The Evil God*: Satan has always wanted to be God and will imitate God to deceive the world to be worshiped as God
* *The Evil Son*: The Antichrist will be the my powerful and evil ruler this world has ever seen; empowered by Satan to control the entire world
* *The Evil Spirit*: The False Prophet will be the Antichrists cheerleader, his advocate from a religious perspective to lead the world to not only serve the Antichrist as their ultimate king, but their God as well
* **Matthew 7:15 “15Watch out for false prophets. They come to you in sheep’s clothing, but inwardly they are ferocious wolves”Cross references:**
* What is Satan using in your life to deceive you with that seems good, but is Satan behind it all to destroy you?[Matthew 7:15](http://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Matthew+7:15#en-NIV-23332) : [Jer 23:16; Mt 24:24; Lk 6:26; 2Pe 2:1; 1Jn 4:1; Rev 16:13](http://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Jer%2023:16,%20Matt%2024:24,%20Luke%206:26,%202Pet%202:1,%201John%204:1,%20Rev%2016:13&version=NIV)[Matthew 7:15](http://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Matthew+7:15#en-NIV-23332) : [Eze 22:27; Ac 20:29](http://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Ezek%2022:27,%20Acts%2020:29&version=NIV)