

Aiken SDA Church
November 21, 2020

THIRD ANGEL MESSAGE

Revelation 14:6

- *And I saw another angel fly in the midst of heaven, having the everlasting gospel to preach unto them that dwell on the earth, and to every nation, and kindred, and tongue, and people*

Revelation 14:7

- *Saying with a loud voice, Fear God, and give glory to Him; for the hour of His judgment is come; and worship Him that made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and the fountain of waters.*

Revelation 14:8

- *And there followed another angel, saying, Babylon is fallen, is fallen, that great city, because she made all nations drink of the wine of the wrath of her fornication.*

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;*

Revelation 14:11-12

- *And the smoke of their torment ascendeth up forever and ever; and they have no rest day or night, who worship the beast and his image, and whosoever receiveth the mark of his name;*
- *Here is the patience of the saints: here are they that keep the commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus.*

Revelation 14:9-11

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- ⦿ *And the smoke of their torment ascendeth up forever and ever; and they have no rest day or night, who worship the beast and his image, and whosoever receiveth the mark of his name*

Few Biblical prophetic symbols

- beast - kingdom, government, political power (Daniel 7: 17, 23),
- day – literal year (Ezekiel 4:8; Numbers 14:34),
- dragon – Satan or his agency (Rev. 12: 7-9),
- forehead – mind (Romans 7:25, Ezekiel 3: 8,9),
- hand – work (Ecclesiastes 9:10),
- heads – major power, rulers, governments (Rev 17: 3, 9, 10),
- horn – King/ kingdom (Daniel 7:24, 8:5,21, 22, Rev 17:12),
- mark – sign or seal of approval or disapproval (Ezekiel 9:4),
- sea/waters – inhabited area/people/nations (Rev 17:15)

Beast Characteristics – Rev 13

- Raise up from the sea (v.1)
- Has seven heads and 10 horns each with its own crown (v. 1)
- Composite beast: looked like leopard, with bear feet, mouth of lion (v.2)
- The dragon give him his power, his seat, and great authority (v.2)
- The beast was speaking blasphemies against God, His name, the tabernacle, and those dwelling in heaven (v.5,6)
- Is a persecuting power of the saints- God's people (v.7)
- Was given a time of 42 months (v.5)
- One head looked like it had a deadly wound (v.3)
- But this deadly wound was healed (v.3)
- All world wandered after the beast and worship the dragon and the beast(v.3, 4, 8)
- Has a powerful influence on everyone in earth (v.7)

What is blasphemies?

- ⦿ when a human makes oneself equal to God (John10:33) or
- ⦿ a human claiming that has power to forgive sins (Luke 5:21).

Speaking Blasphemies

- ◎ “The priest [catholic priest] holds the place of the Saviour Himself, when, by saying, ‘Ego te absolvo’ [I thee absolve], he absolves from sin... To pardon a single sin require all the omnipotence of God...But what only God can do by His omnipotence, the priest can also do by saying ‘Ego te absolvo a peccatis tuis’ ...Innocent III has written: ‘indeed, it is not too much to say that in view of sublimity of their offices the priest are so many gods’”

- ◎ (Alphonsus de Liguori, Dignities and Duties of the Priest, pp.34-36) from Uriah Smith – Daniel and the Revelation, p.570

⦿ In chapter 13 (verses 1-10) is described another beast, “like unto a leopard,” to which the dragon gave “his power, and his seat, and great authority.” This symbol, as most Protestants have believed, represents the papacy, which succeeded to the power and seat and authority once held by the ancient Roman empire. Of the leopardlike beast it is declared: “There was given unto him a mouth speaking great things and blasphemies.... And he opened his mouth in blasphemy against God, to blaspheme His name, and His tabernacle, and them that dwell in heaven. And it was given unto him to make war with the saints, and to overcome them: and power was given him over all kindreds, and tongues, and nations.” This prophecy, which is nearly identical with the description of the little horn of Daniel 7, unquestionably points to the papacy.

⦿ E.G. White – The Great Controversy, p. 439

Revelation 13:14-15

- ⦿ *And deceiveth them that dwell on the earth by the means of those miracles which he has power to do in the sight of the beast; saying to them that dwell on the earth, that they should make an image to the beast, which had the wound by a sword and did live.*
- ⦿ *And he had power to give life unto the image of the beast should both speak, and cause that as many as would not worship the image of the beast should be killed.*

- But what is the “image to the beast”? and how is it to be formed? The image is made by the two-horned beast, and is an image *to* the beast. It is also called an image *of* the beast. Then to learn what the image is like and how it is to be formed we must study the characteristics of the beast itself—the papacy.
- When the early church became corrupted by departing from the simplicity of the gospel and accepting heathen rites and customs, she lost the Spirit and power of God; and in order to control the consciences of the people, she sought the support of the secular power. The result was the papacy, a church that controlled the power of the state and employed it to further her own ends, especially for the punishment of “heresy.” In order for the United States to form an image of the beast, the religious power must so control the civil government that the authority of the state will also be employed by the church to accomplish her own ends
 - E.G. White – The Great Controversy, p. 443

Sabbath=God's sign

- Exodus 31:13 : Speak thou also unto the children of Israel, saying, Verily My Sabbaths ye shall keep: for it is a sign between me and you throughout your generation; that ye may know that I am the Lord that doth sanctify you
- Ezekiel 20:12 : Moreover also I give them My Sabbaths, to be a sign between Me and them, that they might know that I am the Lord that sanctify them
- Ezekiel 20:20: And hallow My Sabbaths; and they shall be a sign between me and you, that ye may know that I am the Lord your God

⦿ Practically everything Protestants regard as essential or important they have received from the Catholic Church... The Protestant mind does not seem to realize that in accepting the Bible and observing the Sunday, in keeping Christmas and Easter, they are accepting the authority of the spokesman for the church, the Pope.

⦿ Our Sunday Visitor (February 5, 1950)

- ◉ When Sunday observance shall be enforced by law, and the world shall be enlightened concerning the obligation of the true Sabbath, then whoever shall transgress the command of God, to obey a precept which has no higher authority than that of Rome, will thereby honor popery above God. He is paying homage to Rome, and to the power which enforces the institution ordained by Rome. He is worshiping the beast and his image. As men then reject the institution which God has declared to be the sign of His authority, and honor in its stead that which Rome has chosen as the token of her supremacy, they will thereby accept the sign of allegiance to Rome,—“the mark of the beast.” And it is not until the issue is thus plainly set before the people, and they are brought to choose between the commandments of God and the commandments of men, that those who continue in transgression will receive “the mark of the beast.”

- ◉ E.G White – The Great Controversy, p.449

Revelation 14:12

- *Here is the patience of the saints: here are they that keep the commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus.*

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⦿ Alleluia! **heaven is cheap** enough

⦿ E.G. White – Heaven, p. 60